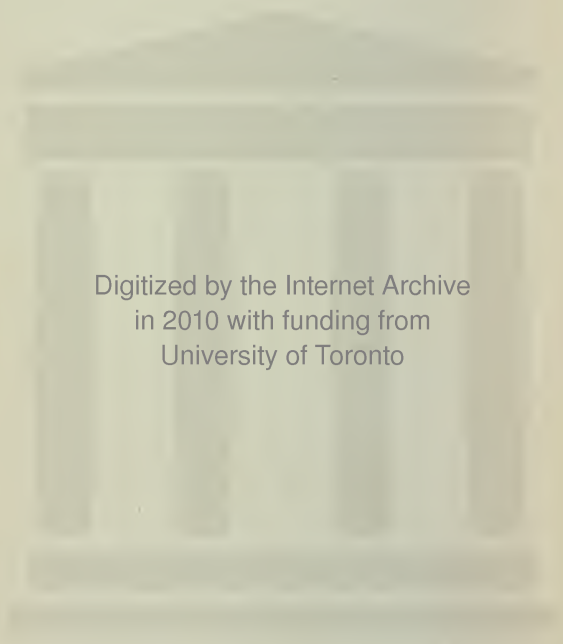




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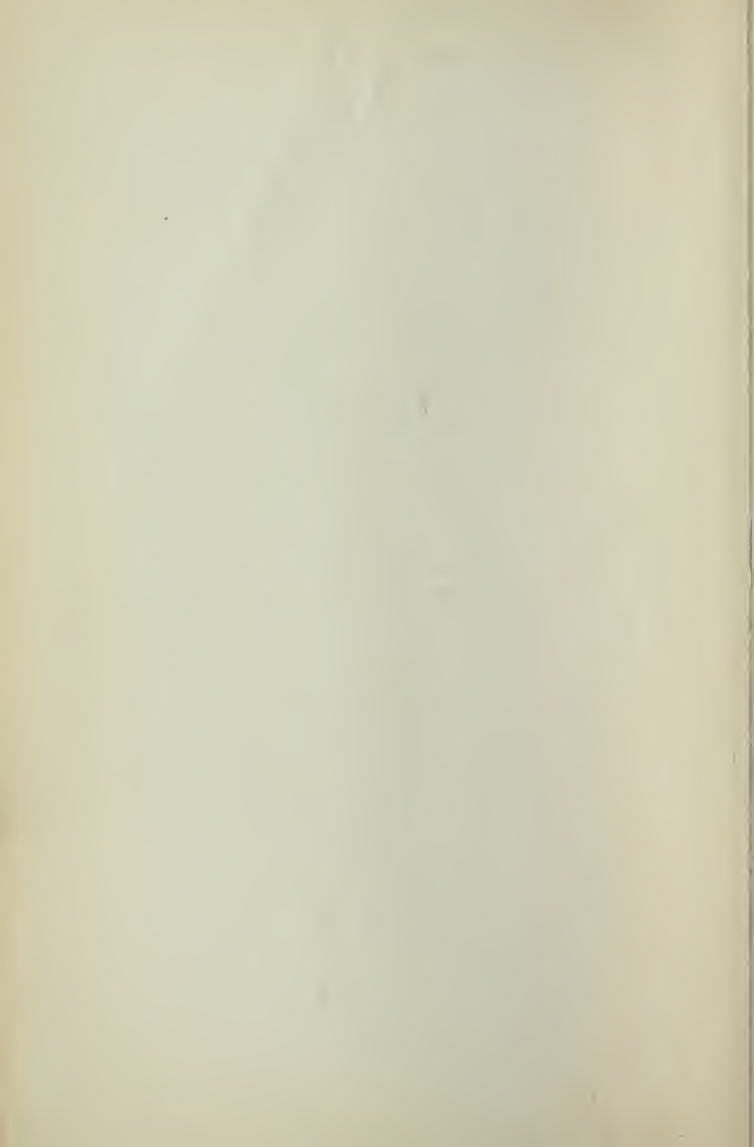


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THE
Doctrine and Discipline
OF
The Methodist Church,
Canada.
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Part I.

THE CHURCH.

DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.

CHAPTER I.

DOCTRINES AND GENERAL RULES.

SECTION I.

STANDARDS OF DOCTRINE.

1. The Doctrines of the Methodist Church are declared to be those contained in the twenty-five Articles of Religion, and those taught by the Rev. John Wesley, M.A., in his Notes on the New Testament, and in the first fifty-two Sermons of the first series of his discourses, published during his lifetime.

ARTICLES OF RELIGION.

I. Of Faith in the Holy Trinity.

2. There is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body or parts, of infinite power, wisdom

and goodness; the Maker and Preserver of all things, visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead there are three persons, of one substance, power and eternity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

II. *Of the Word, or Son of God, who was made very man.*

3. The Son, who is the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man's nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin; so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided, whereof is one Christ, very God and very man, who truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile His Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for the actual sins of men.

III. *Of the Resurrection of Christ.*

4. Christ did truly rise again from the dead, and took again His body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith He ascended into heaven, and there sitteth until He return to judge all men at the last day.

IV. *Of the Holy Spirit.*

5. The Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of one substance, majesty and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

V. *The Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation.*

6. The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scripture we do understand those canonical books of the Old and New Testament of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church. The names of the canonical books are: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, The First Book of Samuel, The Second Book of Samuel, The First Book of Kings, The Second Book of Kings, The First Book of Chronicles, The Second Book of Chronicles, The Book of Ezra, The Book of Nehemiah, The Book of Esther, The Book of Job, The Psalms, The Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, or the Preacher, Canticles, or Song of Solomon, Four Prophets the greater, Twelve Prophets the less.

All the books of the New Testament, as they are commonly received, we do receive and account canonical.

VI. *Of the Old Testament.*

7. The Old Testament is not contrary to the New; for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man. Wherefore they are not to be heard who feign that the old fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the law given

from God by Moses, as touching ceremonies and rites, doth not bind Christians, nor ought the civil precepts thereof of necessity to be received in any commonwealth; yet, notwithstanding, no Christian whatsoever is free from the obedience of the commandments which are called moral.

VII. *Of Original or Birth Sin.*

8. Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

VIII. *Of Free Will.*

9. The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God; wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

IX. *Of the Justification of Man.*

10. We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Where-

fore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.

X. *Of Good Works.*

11. Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's judgments; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit.

XI. *Of Works of Supererogation.*

12. Voluntary works—besides, over, and above God's commandments—which are called works of supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy and impiety. For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for His sake than of bounden duty is required; whereas Christ saith plainly, When ye have done all that is commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants.

XII. *Of Sin after Justification.*

13. Not every sin willingly committed after justification is the sin against the Holy Spirit, and unpardonable. Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after justification: after we have received the Holy Spirit, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and, by the grace of God, rise again and amend our lives. And there-

fore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here; or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

XIII. *Of the Church.*

14. The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men, in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the sacraments duly administered, according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

XIV. *Of Purgatory.*

15. The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshipping, and adoration, as well of images as of relics, and also invocation of saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God.

XV. *Of Speaking in the Congregation in such a Tongue as the People Understand.*

16. It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the primitive Church, to have public prayer in the Church, or to minister the sacraments, in a tongue not understood by the people.

XVI. *Of the Sacraments.*

17. Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's profession, but rather are they certain signs of grace, and God's good will towards us, by the which He doth work invisibly

in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and comfort our faith in Him.

There are two sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord.

Those five commonly called sacraments, that is to say, confirmation, penance, orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, are not to be counted for sacraments of the Gospel; being such as have partly grown out of the corrupt following of the apostles, and partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures, but yet have not the like nature of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because they have not any visible sign or ceremony ordained of God.

The sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon or to be carried about, but that we should duly use them. And in such only as worthily receive the same, they have a wholesome effect or operation; but they that receive them unworthily purchase to themselves condemnation, as Saint Paul saith, 1 Cor. xi. 29.

XVII. *Of Baptism.*

18. Baptism is not only a sign of profession, and mark of difference, whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not baptized, but it is also a sign of regeneration, or the new birth. The baptism of young children is to be retained in the Church.

XVIII. *Of the Lord's Supper.*

19. The Supper of the Lord is not only a sign of the love that Christians ought to have among them-

selves one to another, but rather is a sacrament of our redemption by Christ's death; insomuch that to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break is a partaking of the body of Christ; and likewise the cup of blessing is a partaking of the blood of Christ.

Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after a heavenly and spiritual manner. And the means whereby the body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper is faith.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshipped.

XIX. *Of Both Kinds.*

20. The cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the lay people; for both the parts of the Lord's Supper, by Christ's ordinance and commandment, ought to be administered to all Christians alike.

XX. *Of the One Oblation of Christ, Finished upon the Cross.*

21. The offering of Christ once made is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction for all

the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifice of the mass, in which it is commonly said that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit.

XXI. Of the Marriage of Ministers.

22. The ministers of Christ are not commanded by God's law either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage: therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christians, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve best to godliness.

XXII. Of the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church.

23. It is not necessary that rites and ceremonies should in all places be the same, or exactly alike; for they have always been different, and may be changed according to the diversity of countries, times and men's manners, so that nothing be ordained against God's Word. Whosoever, through his private judgment, willingly and purposely doth openly break the rites and ceremonies of the Church to which he belongs, which are not repugnant to the Word of God, and are ordained and approved by common authority, ought to be rebuked openly, that others may fear to do the like, as one that offendeth against the common order of the Church, and woundeth the consciences of weak brethren.

Every particular Church may ordain, change, or abolish rites and ceremonies, so that all things may be done to edification.

XXIII. *Of the Civil Government.*

24. We believe it is the duty of all Christians to be subject to the powers that be; for we are commanded by the Word of God to respect and obey the Civil Government: we should therefore not only fear God, but honor the King.

XXIV. *Of Christian Men's Goods.*

25. The riches and goods of Christians are not common, as touching the right, title and possession of the same, as some do falsely boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought, of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability.

XXV. *Of a Christian Man's Oath.*

26. As we confess that vain and rash swearing is forbidden Christian men by our Lord Jesus Christ and James His apostle; so we judge that the Christian religion doth not prohibit, but that a man may swear when the magistrate requireth, in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done according to the prophet's teaching, in justice, judgment, and truth.

SECTION II.

THE ORIGIN, DESIGN, AND GENERAL RULES OF OUR UNITED SOCIETIES.

27. In the latter end of the year 1739, eight or ten persons came to Mr. Wesley in London, who appeared to be deeply convinced of sin, and earnestly groaning for redemption. They desired, as did two or three more the next day, that he would spend some time with them in prayer, and advise them how to flee from the wrath to come, which they saw continually hanging over their heads. That he might have more time for this great work, he appointed a day when they might all come together; which from thenceforward they did every week, namely, on *Thursday*, in the evening. To these, and as many more as desired to join with them (for their numbers increased daily), he gave those advices from time to time which he judged most needful for them; and they always concluded their meetings with prayer suited to their several necessities.

28. This was the rise of the UNITED SOCIETIES, first in *Europe* and then in *America*. Such a Society is no other than “*a company of men, having the form and seeking the power of godliness, united in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love, that they may help each other to work out their salvation.*”

29. That it may the more easily be discerned whether they are indeed working out their own salva-

tion, each Society is divided into smaller companies, called classes, according to their respective places of abode. There are about twelve persons in a class, one of whom is styled *The Leader*. It is his duty,—

1. To see each person in his class once a week at least, in order, (a) To inquire how their souls prosper. (b) To advise, reprove, comfort, or exhort, as occasion may require. (c) To receive what they are willing to give towards the support of the Ministers, Church, and poor.

2. To meet the Ministers and Stewards of the Society once a week, in order, (a) To inform the Minister of any that are sick, or of any that walk disorderly and will not be reprov'd. (b) To pay the Stewards what they have received of the several classes in the week preceding.

30. There is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these Societies, “a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and be saved from their sins.” But wherever this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits.

31. It is therefore expected of all who continue therein, that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation, *First*, By doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practised; such as,—The taking of the name of God in vain; the profaning of the day of the Lord, either by doing ordinary work therein, or by buying or selling; drunkenness, buying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in case of extreme

necessity; the buying or selling of men, women, and children, with the intention to enslave them; fighting, quarreling, brawling, brother going to law with brother; returning evil for evil, or railing for railing; the using many words in buying or selling; the buying or selling goods that have not paid the duty; the giving or taking on usury, that is, unlawful interest; uncharitable or unprofitable conversation, particularly speaking evil of magistrates or of ministers; doing to others as we would not they should do unto us; doing what we know is not for the glory of God; as,—The putting on of gold or costly apparel; the taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus; the singing those songs, or reading those books, which do not tend to the knowledge or love of God; softness and needless self-indulgence; laying up treasure upon earth; borrowing without a probability of paying; or taking up goods without a probability of paying for them.

32. It is expected of all who continue in these Societies that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation, *Secondly*, By doing good; by being in every kind merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and as far as possible, to all men: To their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison: To their souls, by instructing, reproving, or exhorting all they have any intercourse with; trampling under foot that enthusi-

astic doctrine, that “we are not to do good *unless our hearts are free to it:*” By doing good, especially to them who are of the household of faith, or groaning so to be: employing them preferably to others; buying one of another, helping each other in business; and so much the more because the world will love its own and them *only*: By all possible *diligence and frugality*, that the Gospel be not blamed: By running with patience the race which is set before them, *denying themselves, and taking up their cross daily*; submitting to bear the reproach of Christ, to be as the filth and offscouring of the world; and looking that men should say *all manner of evil of them falsely for the Lord’s sake*.

33. It is expected of all who desire to continue in these Societies that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation, *Thirdly*, By attending upon all the ordinances of God; such as,—The public worship of God; the ministry of the Word, either read or expounded; the Supper of the Lord; family and private prayer; searching the Scriptures; fasting or abstinence.

34. These are the General Rules of our Societies; all of which we are taught of God to observe, even in His written Word, *which is the only rule, and the sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice*. And all these we know His Spirit writes on truly awakened hearts. If there be any among us who observes them not, who habitually breaks any of them, let it be known unto them who watch over that soul as they who must

give an account. We will admonish him of the error of his ways. We will bear with him for a season. But if then he repent not, he hath no more place among us. We have delivered our own souls.

35. NOTE.—Forasmuch as these rules are to be interpreted by the enlightened Christian conscience according to the principles of Christian liberty revealed in God's Word, our members are earnestly admonished that they guard with great care their reputations as servants of Christ; and in the case of those amusements and practices which are of a hurtful or questionable tendency, that they engage in none injurious to their spiritual life, or incompatible with their allegiance to Jesus Christ the Master.

SECTION III.

BAPTISM.

36. The proper subjects for baptism are infants, and believing adults who have not been baptized in infancy.

37. The mode of baptism is by sprinkling or pouring; but should any candidates for baptism prefer another mode, the officiating minister may comply with their request. Whenever practicable let the ordinance be administered in the public congregation. Let the minister, when receiving persons on probation for membership, particularly inquire whether they have been baptized, and if not, let that rite be administered as soon as practicable.

SECTION IV.

THE LORD'S SUPPER.

38. In the public administration of the Lord's Supper non-alcoholic wines shall be used wherever possible. Let those persons that do not desire to receive the Lord's Supper kneeling, receive it either sitting or standing.

39. Preparatory service may be held during the week preceding the Communion Lord's Day, when the minister may issue communion cards to the members of the Church; and in the event of absence, the District Visitors may distribute them to those entitled to receive them, who reside within the bounds of their respective districts. Communicants may place their communion cards upon the collection plates at the communion service. The minister may keep a roll of the communicants whose cards are returned on the communion Lord's Day.

40. No person shall be admitted to the Lord's Supper among us who is guilty of any practice for which we would exclude a member of our Church.

SECTION V.

MARRIAGE.

41. Members of our Church sometimes marry with careless, unawakened persons. Too often this has produced bad effects. To discourage this practice let every

minister urge the apostle's caution,—“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers” (2 Corinthians 6: 14); and let them exhort all to take no step in so weighty a matter without earnest prayer to God and consultation with judicious Christian friends.

42. In general, no young woman should marry without the consent, much less without the knowledge, of her parents or natural guardians. Nevertheless, there may be exceptional cases, as when they refuse to allow her to marry at all or when they refuse to allow her to marry any Christian. But even in such cases she should seriously consult with those competent to give godly counsel.

43. The minister to whom application is made for the solemnization of marriage of any divorced person, shall enquire into the circumstances, and if necessary for his information, shall require the production of a copy of the decree and other proceedings on obtaining the divorce, and if satisfied that the divorce was obtained upon other than scriptural grounds, as set forth in the teachings of our Lord, or that, in case of divorce upon such grounds, the divorced person desiring marriage was the guilty party, he shall refuse to solemnize such marriage.

CHAPTER II.

THE MINISTRY.

SECTION I.

OF THE EXAMINATION OF THOSE WHO THINK THEY
ARE MOVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TO PREACH.

44. In order that we may try those who profess to be moved by the Holy Spirit to preach, let the following questions be asked, namely:—

1. Do they know God as a pardoning God? Have they the love of God abiding in them? Do they desire nothing but God? And are they holy in all manner of conversation?

2. Have they gifts as well as grace for the work? Have they a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? And has God given them an acceptable way of speaking? Do they speak justly, readily, clearly?

3. Have they fruit? Are any truly convinced of sin and converted to God by their preaching?

45. As long as these three marks concur in any one, we believe that he is called of God to preach. These we receive as sufficient proof that he is moved by the Holy Spirit.

SECTION II.

OF RULES OF CONDUCT FOR A MINISTER OR PROBATIONER FOR THE MINISTRY.

46. *Rule 1.* Be diligent. Never be unemployed; never be triflingly employed; never trifle away time, neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary.

47. *Rule 2.* Be serious. Let your motto be "*Holiness to the Lord.*" Avoid all lightness, jesting, and foolish talking.

48. *Rule 3.* Conduct yourselves prudently with women; and, as to marriage, take counsel with your brethren unto whom is committed the charge and government over you.

49. *Rule 4.* Believe evil of no one without good evidence; unless you see it done, take heed how you credit it. Put the best construction on everything.

50. *Rule 5.* Speak evil of no one; because your word, especially, would eat as doth a canker. Keep your thoughts within your own breast till you come to the person concerned.

51. *Rule 6.* Tell every one under your care what you think wrong in his conduct and temper, and that lovingly and plainly, as soon as may be, else it will fester in your heart. Make all haste to cast the fire out of your bosom.

52. *Rule 7.* Avoid all affectation. A preacher of the Gospel is the servant of all.

53. *Rule 8.* Be manly and honorable, and be ashamed of nothing but sin.

54. *Rule 9.* Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but for conscience' sake.

55. *Rule 10.* You have nothing to do but to save souls, therefore spend and be spent in this work; and go always, not only to those that want you, but to those that want you most.

Observe! it is not only your business to preach so many times, and to take care of this or that Society, but to save as many as you can; to bring as many sinners as you can to repentance, and, with all your power, to build them up in that holiness without which they cannot see the Lord. And remember! a Methodist preacher is to mind every point, great and small, in the Methodist Discipline! Therefore you will need to exercise all the sense and grace you have.

56. *Rule 11.* Act in all things, not according to your own will, but as a son in the Gospel. As such, it is your duty to employ your time in the manner which we direct; in preaching and visiting from house to house; in reading, meditation and prayer. Above all, if you labor with us in the Lord's vineyard, it is needful you should do that part of the work which we advise, at those times and places which we judge most for His glory.

57. Smaller advices which might be of use to us are perhaps these: 1. Be sure never to disappoint a congregation. 2. Begin at the time appointed. 3. Let

your whole deportment be serious, weighty, and solemn. 4. Always suit your subject to your audience. 5. Choose the plainest text you can. 6. Take care not to ramble, but keep to your text, and make out what you take in hand. 7. Take care of anything awkward or affected, either in your gestures, phrase, or pronunciation. 8. Do not usually pray *extempore* above eight or ten minutes (at most) without intermission. 9. Frequently read and enlarge upon a portion of Scripture; and let young preachers often exhort without taking a text. 10. Always avail yourself of the great festivals by preaching on the occasion.

SECTION III.

THE DUTY OF MINISTERS AND PROBATIONERS—MATTER AND MANNER OF PREACHING—VISITING FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE.

58. The duty of a minister or probationer is: 1. To preach. 2. To meet the societies and classes. 3. To visit the sick. 4. To attend to well-ordered pastoral visiting. 5. To win all to Christ, especially the young.

59. A minister or probationer shall be qualified for his charge by walking closely with God, and having His work greatly at heart, and by understanding and loving discipline, ours in particular.

60. A minister or probationer should use all the means of grace himself, and urge the use of them on others, such as:

1. *Prayer*—private, family, and public; consisting of adoration, thanksgiving, confession, petition and intercession.

2. *Searching the Scriptures.*

3. *The Lord's Supper.*

4. *Fasting and abstinence.*

5. *Christian conference.*

Ministers should manifest an interest in the spiritual welfare of each other by speaking freely to each other upon the subject of personal religion. They should take great care not to despise each other's gifts, or speak lightly of each other, defending each other's character in everything, as far as is consistent with truth.

61. The distinct aim and best general method of preaching is: 1. To convince; 2. To offer Christ; 3. To invite; 4. To build up; and to do this in some measure in every sermon.

62. The most effectual way of preaching Christ is to preach Him in all His offices; and to declare His law, as well as His Gospel, both to believers and unbelievers. Let us strongly and closely insist upon inward and outward holiness in all its branches.

63. It is by no means advisable for us to preach in as many places as we can without forming any Societies.

We should endeavor to preach most,—1. Where there is the greatest number of quiet and willing hearers; 2. Where there is most fruit.

We ought diligently to observe in what places God is pleased at any time to pour out His Spirit more

abundantly, and at that time to send more laborers than usual into that part of the harvest.

64. We can further assist those under our care by instructing them in their own homes. Family religion is wanting in many homes. What avails public preaching alone? We must, yea, every minister and every probationer must instruct the people from house to house. Let this be done, and that in good earnest.

SECTION IV.

THE ELECTION AND ORDINATION OF MINISTERS, AND THEIR DUTIES.

65. A minister is constituted by election of the Annual Conference, and by laying on of the hands of those duly appointed thereto.

66. The duties of a minister are:

1. To conduct all parts of Divine worship;
2. To administer Baptism and the Lord's Supper;
3. To solemnize Matrimony;
4. In general to perform all the work of a Christian minister.

67. No minister who ceases to travel without the consent of the Annual Conference, certified under the hand of the President, except in case of sickness, debility, or other unavoidable circumstances, shall exercise, on any account, the peculiar functions of his office, or even be allowed to preach among us; never-

theless, the final determination in all such cases is with the Annual Conference.

68. After approval of the Annual Conference, the General Superintendent, with the President of the Annual Conference, may issue a commission, to which the seal of the Conference shall be attached, to authorize a minister of the Church to ordain, according to our form of ordination, such missionary or missionaries as may be stationed in distant parts of our work.

SECTION V.

THE RECEPTION OF MINISTERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES.

69. Ministers who offer to unite with us from other Christian Churches may be received in the following manner:—

1. If they come to us with proper testimonials from any accredited Methodist Church they may be received according to such credentials, provided they give satisfaction to the Annual Conference of their willingness to conform to our Church government and usages.

2. Candidates for the ministry from other evangelical denominations may be received as candidates for our ministry provided they give satisfaction that they are suitable persons to exercise the office; and that they believe in the doctrine and approve of the discipline, government and usages of our Church. The Chairman and any two ministers (members of the Conference) of the District within the bounds of which any such candidate may be travelling or resident, are

authorized to act as a committee on behalf of the Annual Conference, to admit him into our Church, when he may be employed until the ensuing Annual Conference, and then if recommended by the Annual District Meeting, he may be received as a probationer for the ministry.

3. Ministers of other evangelical Churches who may desire to unite with our Church may be received according to our usages, on condition of their taking upon them our ordination vows when required, without the re-imposition of hands, giving satisfaction to an Annual Conference of their being duly ordained ministers, and of their agreement with us in doctrine, discipline, government, and usages.

70. Whenever any such minister shall be received, he shall be furnished with a suitable certificate, which shall be provided by the Book Room of the Methodist Church, and signed by the General Superintendent and President, as follows:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that has been received into.....Conference as a minister, he having been ordained to the office of the ministry, according to the usages of the Church, of which he has been a minister; and he is hereby authorized to exercise the functions of his office in the Methodist Church so long as his life and conversation are such as become the Gospel of Christ.

Given under our hand and seal at
this day of in the year
of our Lord.....

.....

CHAPTER III.

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHURCH.

SECTION I.

OF RECEIVING MEMBERS INTO THE CHURCH.

71. In order to prevent improper persons from insinuating themselves into the Church:

1. Let no one be received into the Church until such person has been at least three months on probation, and has been recommended by the Leaders' Meeting, or where no such meeting is held, by the leader. Members in connection with other evangelical Churches, who make application for admission into our Church, may be received by the Superintendent of the circuit or mission as members, when duly accredited, without the usual term of probation.

2. Let none be admitted on probation, nor receive tickets, but those who are recommended by one you know, or until they have met three or four times in class.

3. Read the Rules to them the first time they meet.

SECTION II.

OF THE RELATION OF BAPTIZED CHILDREN TO THE CHURCH.

72. We hold that all children, by virtue of the unconditional benefits of the atonement, are heirs of the kingdom of God, and, therefore, graciously entitled to

baptism; but as infant baptism contemplates a course of religious instruction and discipline, it is expected of all parents or guardians who present their children for baptism, that they use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity to the Word of God; and they should be solemnly admonished of this obligation, and earnestly exhorted to faithfulness therein.

73. We regard all children who have been baptized as placed in visible covenant relation to God, and under the special care and supervision of the Church; therefore every Superintendent of the circuit shall urge upon all parents in his congregation the duty and importance of presenting their children to God in the ordinance of baptism.

74. The Superintendent of the circuit shall record all baptisms in a register to be provided for the purpose and kept in connection with each circuit; also he shall present to the parents of each child baptized by him a certificate of such baptism; and he shall report the names of all baptized children, five years of age, and under, to the superintendent of the cradle-roll of the Sunday school.

75. The Superintendent of the circuit shall constitute a catechumen membership list in the circuit register, wherein he shall enroll, (*a*) the name of each member of the cradle-roll upon reaching the age of five years; and (*b*) the name of each baptized person on the circuit over five and under eighteen years of age, who has not personally and publicly undertaken on his or her own behalf the obligations set forth in the ritual

for reception into full membership. If he baptize a child resident beyond the bounds of his circuit, or a child removes to another circuit, he shall notify the minister within whose circuit the child resides or removes, so that the name may be entered on the catechumen list of that circuit. The catechumen membership list shall be revised annually; and an annual card of membership, somewhat different to that given to adults, shall be given to each catechumen member.

76. The Superintendent of the circuit shall personally instruct the catechumen members of the church, or provide for their adequate instruction, in matters pertaining to religious belief and practice. Such instructions shall include the nature, design and obligation of their baptism, and the truths of religion necessary to make them wise unto salvation, as outlined in the manual for catechumens prepared for this purpose. The manual shall be placed in the hands of all parents, at their expense if possible, or that of the circuit. When the Superintendent of the circuit does not personally supervise such instruction, he shall examine the catechumen members once each quarter, as to their progress in the manual.

77. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of the circuit to endeavor prayerfully and assiduously to lead catechumen members to a personal acceptance of the obligations set forth in the ordinance of baptism, especially during his instruction or quarterly examinations, as provided in Par. 76; and as soon after they have attained the age of twelve years as he deems them

sufficiently matured in judgment and purpose to intelligently and solemnly assume such obligations, he shall, after their avowal thereof, made publicly in the congregation, according to the ritual provided therefor in Par. 518 of the Discipline, transfer their names to the adult membership list, furnish each with a copy of our Rules, and enroll them in a class. An opportunity shall be afforded on each circuit, at least annually, for all such catechumen members to be advanced to the status of adult members.

78. Whenever a baptized child shall become deprived of Christian guardianship, by orphanage or otherwise, the Superintendent of the circuit shall ascertain and report to the Leaders' Meeting the facts in the case; and such provision shall be made for the Christian training of the child as the circumstances may admit and require.

CHAPTER IV.

MEANS OF GRACE.

SECTION I.

PUBLIC WORSHIP.

79. For the establishment of uniformity in public worship among us on the Lord's Day:—

1. Let the morning service consist of (1) Doxology; (2) Invocation; (3) Hymn; (4) Prayer; (5) Anthem or Hymn; (6) Scripture lesson out of the Old, and one out of the New Testament—the minister and con-

gregation may read a portion responsively, and when not read responsively the Revised Version may be used; (7) Collection (if taken before sermon); (8) Hymn; (9) Sermon; (10) Prayer; (11) Collection (if taken after sermon); (12) Hymn; (13) Benediction. At the close of the service let the congregation remain standing with bowed heads in silent prayer.

2. Let the same order be observed in the afternoon and evening services, except that one lesson may suffice.

3. Let the Lord's Prayer also be used on all occasions of public worship in concluding the first prayer, the congregation being recommended to join audibly and heartily; and the Apostolic benediction in dismissing the congregation.

4. Let the form in the Discipline be used in administering the ordinances. Let our own Hymn-Book be used in all the public services.

5. Let the people be earnestly exhorted to take part in the public worship of God—first, in singing; secondly, in the responses of the services of worship; and thirdly, in prayer, in the scriptural attitude of kneeling. Let our pews be so constructed as to render this possible.

6. Let the Society be met, at least once a quarter, wherever it is practicable, on the Lord's Day.

SECTION II.

THE SPIRIT AND MANNER OF SINGING.

80. 1. The singing and all other parts of public worship are under the control and direction of the Sup-

erintendent of the circuit, subject to the Discipline and general usage of the Methodist Church.

2. So far as it does not conflict with provisions of Clause Three of the Model Deed, the Quarterly Official Board may either directly, or through a Musical Committee, regulate the musical services of our churches, with or without remuneration securing the services of and providing equipment for organist, choir-leader, or such other persons as the Board may deem necessary to the efficiency of the service of song.

3. To secure greater heartiness in singing the Minister is enjoined:

(a) To choose such hymns as are appropriate to the occasion, rarely to use hymns of more than five stanzas, and to encourage the use of our Hymn and Tune Book.

(b) To have familiar and suitable tunes used; to exhort every person in the congregation to sing, and to not allow the singing to drag.

(c) To frequently remind the people of the importance as a spiritual exercise of this element of public worship, and to occasionally give something of the origin and history of the hymn chosen.

SECTION III.

CLASS MEETINGS.

81. Let all our members be enrolled in classes, and in order to render our class meetings interesting and profitable:

1. Let each leader be careful to inquire how every soul in his class prospers; not only how each person

observes the outward rules, but how he grows in the knowledge and love of God.

2. Let each leader converse with the minister in charge of the circuit frequently and freely on matters pertaining to his class.

3. It is the duty of the Superintendent of the circuit to see that each class is provided with a suitable leader, and to have the leaders changed where this becomes necessary or desirable; but no leader or assistant leader may be removed, exchanged or appointed contrary to the wish of the class concerned or without the sanction of the Leaders' Meeting or the Quarterly Official Board.

4. See that unsuitable leaders are removed. See that all the leaders be not only men of sound judgment, but men truly devoted to God. Observe what leaders are most useful, and let them meet the other classes as often as possible. As a general rule, let no leader have charge of more than one class.

5. Let the Superintendent of the circuit make strict inquiry, in the Leaders' Meeting preceding the fourth meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, into the moral character of the leaders and assistant leaders, their punctuality in beginning their class meeting, and closing it in proper time, and whatever relates to their office. Where a Leaders' Meeting is not held, its duties shall be performed by the Quarterly Official Board.

6. The Leaders' Meeting shall be composed of the ministers and probationers for the ministry appointed to the circuit, the stewards of the circuit, the leaders and assistant leaders, and the district visitors.

SECTION IV.

DISTRICT VISITORS.

82. 1. The members of the congregation, including the members and adherents of the church, shall be divided into sections by the allotment of a portion of the city, town, village or rural district into a district, which shall be placed in charge of a member of the church, who shall be designated a District Visitor.

2. It shall be the duty of each District Visitor:

(a) To visit every member of the congregation in his district regularly, having a pastoral care over them so as to maintain their spiritual life and aid them in their growth in grace, ever keeping in mind their development through some form of Christian service.

(b) To pay special attention to the sick and poor and those who neglect the means of grace.

(c) To make careful inquiries regarding new members, and to secure information concerning persons who have removed.

(d) To distribute communion cards, wherever in use, to the members of the Church in his district.

(e) To keep an accurate record of the members of the Church in his district who attend or absent themselves from the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

(f) To make inquiries relating to the unbaptized children in his district.

(g) To assist the minister in whatever will tend to the spiritual welfare of the Church within the bounds

of his district, such as the securing of an increased attendance at the weekly prayer-meeting, the class-meeting, and other means of grace.

SECTION V.

PRAYER MEETINGS.

83. Let meetings be held each week for prayer, fellowship, instruction in the Word of God, and spiritual edification.

SECTION VI.

LOVE-FEASTS.

84. A Love-feast shall be held in each circuit and mission at least once a quarter.

SECTION VII.

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

85. Society meetings shall be held once a quarter, whenever it is practicable, under the direction of the Superintendent of the circuit, or his colleague acting under his instruction.

The principal object of the meeting shall be the spiritual edification of the church, by exhortation on the part of the minister present, with prayer and other religious exercises. The members shall be admonished

faithfully respecting their personal religion and Christian deportment, their closet and family duties, and their attendance upon the public and private means of grace. At these meetings the Rules of the Society shall be read, and the representatives to attend the meetings of the Quarterly Official Board may be appointed.

SECTION VIII.

EXCLUSION FOR NEGLECT OF THE MEANS OF GRACE.

86 If any members of the Church repeatedly and without sufficient reason neglect any of the means of grace, such as Class Meeting, Prayer Meeting, Public Worship, the Lord's Supper, the Ordinances of God, let the Superintendent or his assistant visit and admonish them; if they continue their neglect, let them receive notice of exclusion, which shall go into effect at the expiry of six months from the date thereof. The notice shall state also that the member notified may apply within six months to the Leaders' Meeting or Quarterly Official Board to show cause why his name should be continued on the roll of membership; and upon his satisfying the Leaders' Meeting or the Quarterly Official Board of his sincere purpose to amend, the exclusion shall not go into effect. Nothing herein contained shall deprive the member of his right of trial and appeal.

Part II.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CHURCH.

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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CHURCH

CHAPTER I.

THE CONFERENCES.

SECTION I.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

87. The General Conference shall be composed of an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates, elected as hereinafter provided, and shall meet quadrennially. Fifty members of the General Conference shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

88. 1. The General Conference shall elect from the ministers of the Church, by ballot, without debate, one or more itinerant General Superintendents, in agreement with the Basis of Union.

2. A General Superintendent elected to the office by a General Conference, or by the General Conference Special Committee, shall enter upon his duties forthwith.

89. Each General Conference shall elect, by ballot, without debate, from among its members, a Secretary, whose duty it shall be to keep a correct record of its proceedings, and to publish the Journals, under the direction of the General Conference. The Secretary so elected may nominate, and the Conference elect, an assistant or assistants.

Powers of the General Conference.

90. The General Conference only shall have full power to make rules and regulations for our Church, under the following limitations and restrictions, viz.:

1. It shall not revoke, alter or change any Article of Religion, nor establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our existing and established Standards of Doctrine.

2. It shall not destroy the plan of our Itinerant System.

3. It shall not do away with the privileges of our ministers or probationers for the ministry of trial by a committee, and of an appeal; neither shall it do away with the privileges of our members of trial before the Society, or by a committee, and of an appeal.

4. It shall not make any change in the General Rules of our Society, except by a three-fourths majority; and if required by either order of ministry or laity, a two-thirds majority of each order, voting separately.

5. No change shall be made in the Basis of Union affecting constitutional questions, or the rights and privileges of ministry or laity, except by a three-fourths majority of the General Conference; and if required by either ministry or laity, a two-thirds majority of each order, voting separately.

6. In cases of the foregoing clauses 4 and 5, it is understood that only three-fourths and two-thirds respectively of those present and voting shall be required, provided that the total number present and voting shall be not less than one-half of all the members reported elected.

91. The General Conference shall extend to women equal rights and privileges with men as lay members of the church.

92. One day prior to the election of any General Conference officer, the committee charged with consideration of the work of the department concerned, shall submit to the General Conference the names of three persons eligible for such appointment; such nomination, however, shall not preclude the right to make nominations from the floor of the Conference, nor limit the freedom of voting by ballot. The General Conference shall not elect any person as a General Conference officer who has passed his seventieth birthday.

93. The General Conference, by a vote of two-thirds of its members, shall have power to increase or diminish the number, or alter the boundaries, of the several Annual Conferences.

94. There shall be, exclusive of Mission Conferences, twelve Annual Conferences in our work, viz.: Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, Montreal, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia.

95. The General Conference shall carefully review the decisions on questions of law contained in the records transmitted to it from the Court of Appeal, the General Superintendent's Court of Appeal, and the decisions on questions of law rendered by the Presidents of Annual Conferences, and shall take such action, if any, as may be necessary to declare or amend the law.

Duties of the General Superintendent.

96. The General Superintendent shall hold office for eight years, and shall be eligible for re-election.

97. He shall preside over the sessions of the General Conference, and over all standing committees, courts, and boards of the same; but in case he be not present, the General Conference, or any committee, court, or board, of the General Conference, shall elect by ballot, without debate, a presiding officer, *pro tem*.

98. He shall be a member, *ex officio*, of all standing committees and boards appointed by the General Conference, with the right to vote, but when presiding he shall have a casting vote only. It shall be the duty of the secretaries of such boards and committees, and also the secretaries of other important committees of the Church, to regularly transmit a report of their proceedings to the General Superintendent.

99. He shall not be stationed, but shall travel at large throughout the Church, and shall have the general oversight of all Church interests and institutions, and do all in his power to forward them, and render such service as the General Conference may direct. He shall give special attention to such interests as are connexional in their character, leaving local or confessional matters to the Annual Conference authorities as far as possible. He may call together from time to time the heads of the various connexional departments, or any of them, for counsel and advice on such matters in connection with their departments as he may require. He shall not interfere with the functions of the minis-

ers and other officers of the Church in their prescribed duties.

100. In special exigencies, such as absence from Canada for a considerable period, or other reasons, he may appoint a substitute with power of attorney, and to perform such other functions, as in the judgment of the General Superintendent, the special circumstances may require.

101. At the request of the Chairman of a District he shall have power to visit any circuit or mission with a view to composing and settling any dispute or difficulty which may arise in connection with the work of the Church, or which may threaten the peace or progress of the same.

2. At the request of the Chairman of a District the General Superintendent may preside over any session of the District Meeting.

102. He shall have authority to act in the name of the General Conference, in all matters not otherwise provided for, when, in his judgment, the subject is not of sufficient importance to require the calling of the General Conference Special Committee, or when the matter demands instant action; any action under this section shall be reported to the next subsequent meeting of the General Conference Special Committee.

103. He shall decide any question of law arising in any of the committees or boards over which he presides; but any member of such committee or board, or any minister or member whose interests are affected by such decision, shall have the right to appeal to the Court of Appeal.

104. He shall be a member of the Annual Conference to which he belonged at the time of his election to office.

105. He shall not take part in the proceedings of his Annual Conference any further than his duties as General Superintendent may require.

106. He shall be responsible to the General Conference for all his official acts.

General Conference Special Committee.

107. There shall be a committee to be known as the General Conference Special Committee, composed as follows: The General Superintendent, the Secretary of the General Conference, and twelve ministers and twelve laymen, elected as follows: the Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia Conferences, jointly, two ministers and two laymen; the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland Conferences, jointly, two ministers and one layman; the London Conference, two ministers and one layman; the Hamilton Conference, one minister and two laymen; the Toronto Conference, two ministers and three laymen; the Bay of Quinte Conference, one minister and two laymen; the Montreal Conference, two ministers and one layman. The delegates to General Conference shall meet and elect these members. The General Superintendent shall designate the conveners for the Western and Eastern groups. In other cases the Conference Presidents shall convene the delegations. This committee, from one General Conference to an-

other, shall watch over and guard all the rights and privileges of our Church throughout the connexion, promote as far as possible the recommendations of the General Conference, consider and decide upon any measure which may seem necessary for the general interests of the Church and which could not have been foreseen at the meeting of the General Conference, and adopt such measures for their accomplishment as it may judge expedient. The said committee shall report to the General Conference.

108. The General Conference Special Committee shall have power to call at any time a special session of the General Conference, which shall be composed of the members of the last regular General Conference, all vacancies having been filled as hereinafter provided.

109. In the event of the death or disability of a General Superintendent, the Secretary of the General Conference, or five members of the Special Committee of the General Conference, shall call together that committee, when it shall elect a successor, who shall fill the office until the next General Conference.

Duties and Powers of Boards and Committees.

110. When any vacancy occurs during the quadrennium in any board, court or committee of the General Conference, by death, resignation or otherwise, the same shall be filled by the surviving members of such board, court or committee, unless some other provision has been made for filling such vacancy. When a vacancy occurs, by transfer, in a General Conference Board,

composed wholly or partially of representatives of Annual Conferences, the vacancy shall be filled by the next ensuing Annual Conference concerned.

111. Any board or committee having charge of any fund of the Church may borrow, upon the credit and security of such fund, such sum or sums of money as it may find necessary for the purpose thereof, and may hypothecate, mortgage and pledge so much of the real or personal property held in trust for such fund as may be necessary to secure any sum or sums so borrowed. Any document or documents required therefor may be executed on behalf of the Church by such person or persons as the respective boards or committees may direct.

112. The boards and committees of the General Conference shall report in detail, quadrennially, the salaries, house rent and other allowances of the heads of departments in connection with the Conference, and the source of payments.

113. All boards and standing committees of the General Conference shall make, on the first day of its sessions, a return giving in detail the following information: (1) The number of meetings of the board or committee and of each standing sub-committee thereof held during the quadrennium; (2) the number of meetings attended by each member; (3) the travelling expenses of each member, and (4) the total expense of the holding of such meetings.

114. When the General Conference shall appoint a committee or commission to investigate any question

during the quadrennium, the committee or commission shall report the results of its investigations to the General Conference Special Committee, and the latter shall distribute the information to the Annual District Meetings, and the Annual Conferences next preceding the meeting of the General Conference.

115. All standing committees and boards shall present their reports in duplicate to the General Conference.

SECTION II.

THE COURT OF APPEAL.

116. The Court of Appeal shall consist of the General Superintendent and twelve other persons—six ministers and six laymen—to be elected by ballot by the General Conference from twelve ministers and twelve laymen, to be nominated by the General Superintendent.

1. The Court shall elect by ballot its own Secretary.

2. A majority of those present shall be necessary to render a decision, but such a majority shall be not less than five.

3. The Court shall hear and determine appeals:

(a) From decisions of the presiding officers of the Annual Conferences on questions of law;

(b) From decisions of Presidents of Annual Conferences on questions of law;

(c) From decisions of Annual Conferences, or standing committees thereof, when they have exceeded their jurisdiction;

(d) From decisions of committees appointed to settle disputes as to boundaries of Annual Conferences, cases of invasion, and the like;

(e) From decisions of General Superintendents on questions of law in the committees and boards over which they preside;

(f) From decisions of committees and boards of the General Conference when they have exceeded their jurisdiction;

(g) From rulings of the General Superintendent presiding in the General Conference on those questions which require a three-fourths and a two-thirds majority, respectively, under the provisions of secs. 4 and 5 of Par. 93 of the Discipline. The General Conference may reverse any such decision of the Court of Appeal by a three-fourths majority of those present and voting; provided that the total number present and voting shall be not less than one-half of all the members reported elected.

(h) When any of the above appeals is not from the decision of a General Superintendent, it may be heard and determined by the General Superintendent if the appellant requests him to do so. If all parties so request, his decision shall be final. If only the appellant makes such request, the decision shall be final if the decision appealed from is confirmed. The General Superintendent, instead of hearing the appeal, may

remit it at once to the full Court, and the decision of the latter shall be final in all cases, except as provided in sub-section (g) hereof, and in the following additional case: In any case of appeal already decided, should facts deemed to determine in their character the question of law under consideration be brought later to the attention of the Court of Appeal, it shall be within the power of the Court of Appeal to review the case in point, and to modify its decision, due notice having been given to both parties.

4. In case of a dispute between two adjoining circuits of different Annual Conferences, or between two Conferences, as to boundaries, invasion or the like, the General Superintendent shall endeavor to adjust the difficulty, and, if he cannot do so, he shall select a committee of five ministers or official members, who shall hear and determine the matter as nearly as may be in the matter provided for trial. Either party may appeal from the decision of the committee to the Court of Appeal, whose decision shall be final and binding upon all parties.

5. No member of the Court of Appeal who is personally interested in an appeal shall sit on the case. When objection is made on this ground, by appellant or respondent, the remaining members of the Court shall determine whether he is thus disqualified.

6. Any person or Church court appealing to the Court of Appeal shall have the right to appear before the Court in person, or by representative, to prosecute such appeal. The same right shall be accorded to the

respondent, but in every case such representative shall be an accredited member of the Methodist Church, but not a member of the Court of Appeal. In any case, instead of appearing in person, or by a qualified representative, either party may forward to the Court of Appeal a written argument on the subject-matter of the appeal, which shall be read before the Court, and be duly considered before the matter is decided.

7. In all cases of appeal, notice shall be given by the party appealing to the General Superintendent, who shall, after notice of appeal, assemble the Court as soon as possible.

8. In all cases of appeal against the action of an Annual Conference, the appeal must be taken within sixty days after the closing of said Conference, and the decision be given before the opening of the next Annual Conference.

9. In all cases unprovided for, the Court shall have power to frame rules of order and procedure for itself.

10. The Court shall keep a full and correct record of its proceedings; such record shall include (a) the ruling or decision appealed against; (b) the grounds of the appeal; (c) the grounds for resisting the appeal; (d) the decision of the Court; (e) a summary of the reasons of the decision. The decisions shall be published in the *Guardian* and *Wesleyan* and reported to General Conference.

SECTION III.

THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSFERS.

117. The Transfer Committee shall be composed of the General Superintendent and the Presidents of the Annual Conferences, except Mission Conferences, and shall meet annually at the call of the General Superintendent.

1. The General Superintendent and the Presidents of conferences concerned shall have authority to initiate correspondence with ministers and circuits with a view of completing arrangements to secure necessary and desirable transfers.

2. All communications from Presidents of Annual conferences, in relation to transfers from their Conferences, and from ministers who desire a transfer, shall be sent to the General Superintendent not later than the 10th day of March in each year.

3. The General Superintendent shall notify the President of each Annual Conference concerned in the proposed transfer of all proposed or desired transfers to or from his Conference, not later than the 20th day of March in each year, and the President shall immediately notify any member of his Conference affected by such proposed or desired transfer.

4. A proposal to transfer a minister or probationer who has not requested it may be made by any member of the Transfer Committee; provided that, in every case, the President shall give notice of such proposal to the minister, and to the recording steward of the circuit concerned, on or before the 15th day of March, in each

year; and that no minister be transferred without his own consent except by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

5. Whenever a circuit requests the appointment of a minister from another Conference, the Quarterly Official Board of such circuit shall pay the moving expenses. Any minister transferred at his own request shall pay his moving expenses from the place in the Conference from which he removes to the bounds of the Conference into which he is transferred; but in the case of the transfer of a minister who has not made application to be transferred, his moving expenses shall be paid by the General Conference Fund, on the recommendation of the Transfer Committee, or the Interim Transfer Committee, which has dealt with the case. The moving expenses of any minister or probationer transferred at the request of the missionary authorities shall be paid from the Mission Fund.

6. The Transfer Committee shall have authority to fix the date at which the transfer shall take effect.

7. Each minister or probationer transferred shall be subject to the action of the Stationing Committee, and be under the special charge of the President of the Conference to which he is transferred, until he is stationed. In the case of superannuated ministers where transfer is to take place forthwith, or at any time before the assembling of the District Meeting of which such minister has been a member, the President of the Conference shall immediately assign the said minister to some circuit of the Conference, and such transferred minister shall become at once a member of the District

within whose bounds the said circuit is situated, and the President of the Conference shall notify the minister concerned, and also the Chairman of the District, concerning his action in the case.

8. The ultimate claims of any minister or probationer upon the connexional funds shall not be prejudiced by his transfer.

9. The Secretary of the Transfer Committee, immediately after the rising of the committee, shall report to the President of each Annual Conference affected all transfers to and from his Conference, and the date at which each transfer shall take place.

10. The decisions of the committee in all cases of transfer shall be final.

11. The General Superintendent and the Presidents of the two Conferences concerned shall have authority to transfer any probationer on the list of reserve to any Conference where a supply is required.

12. The General Superintendent and the Presidents concerned shall have authority to transfer during the year any minister from one Conference to another for the purpose of filling a vacancy, provided it be not done without the consent of the minister concerned.

13. In case an emergency arises between the Annual Conferences, making it necessary to transfer a minister to supply the work on any missionary field of the North-West or the Pacific Coast, the General Superintendent, together with the Presidents of all of the Annual Conferences interested, shall have authority to transfer such minister, provided they deem it desirable and such minister is willing to be transferred.

14. The Chairman of the District in which a transferred man had been stationed during the year previous to his transfer, shall report to the President of the Conference to which such minister has been transferred, whether or not in his case the usual Disciplinary questions concerning character and standing have been satisfactorily answered; nevertheless this shall not be necessary in cases where the transfer does not take effect until after the usual examination of character in the Conference out of which the transfer is made.

15. At least four married men shall be transferred from the Newfoundland Conference to the other Conferences during the quadrennium, if such men so desire. The men transferred into the Newfoundland Conference shall have the right to return after ten years if they so desire.

16. Not more than one of the ministers transferred from the Newfoundland Conference shall be transferred into any one Conference without the consent of the President of such Conference.

SECTION IV.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Ministerial Session.

118. The ministerial members of each Annual Conference shall hold a session (to be called the Ministerial Session) for the business to be transacted by ministers alone, in advance of the meeting of the

Annual Conference for general business. Such session shall be presided over by the General Superintendent or the President, and shall be held at least one day prior to the meeting of the Annual Conference, as may be determined by the previous Annual Conference, or at the call of the President.

119. Should it be found necessary, a special Ministerial Session may be held at any time during the sessions of the Annual Conference.

120. The ministers of the Annual Conference in Ministerial Session shall examine the character and qualifications of all ministers and probationers for the ministry belonging to the Conference, in accordance with the Discipline, and their decisions shall be final, except in cases of appeal on questions of law. They shall have authority to elect into full connexion and ordain any probationer within its bounds who has completed his probation and fulfilled all Disciplinary requirements; also, to elect to ordination and ordain probationers who have not yet completed these requirements, when the necessities of the work require it.

121. The General Superintendent, together with the President of the Conference concerned, upon the recommendation of the Ministerial Session of the Annual Conference, or of the Ministerial Session of the Special Committee of the same, may issue a license empowering a probationer or lay-worker to administer the sacraments of the Lord's Supper and of Baptism, and the rite of Matrimony where such license does not conflict with the laws of the Province or Territory;

such license to be valid for one year only. Lay workers so licensed shall not become members of the Annual Conference, nor claimants on the Superannuation or Supernumerary Funds.

122. Notwithstanding irregularities or defects in the action of any former Annual Conference respecting the standing of probationers, it shall be competent for any Ministerial Session to review and correct the standing of all probationers, especially as to their studies, during the entire term of their probation, and on the proposal to ordain and receive them into full connexion; and the President may call the attention of the Ministerial Session to any case in hand and administer therein.

123. When a minister is so unacceptable, inefficient or secular as to be no longer useful in his work, the Ministerial Session may request him to ask a location, and if he refuses to comply, he shall be borne with until the next Annual Session, at which time, if he persists in his refusal, he, without a formal trial, may be located by a two-thirds vote of the ministers present and voting. Ministers who are located shall not exercise the functions of the ministry of our Church.

124. No minister shall be left without a station at his own request without having first furnished the Stationing Committee with satisfactory reasons for the action desired; and further, if it be seen that such a minister is engaged in any secular business or work that may detract from his ministerial character or usefulness, and that he has com-

petent abilities for our work, it shall be the duty of the Conference to give notice of location in the usual form thereof, and when it is clear that the minister in question has ceased to be willing to devote himself to the work of the ministry, he shall receive notice of location, which shall take effect.

125. A pastoral address to the churches may be prepared and issued by the Ministerial Session of Conference.

126. Each Conference shall appoint a committee, consisting of the Chairmen of Districts, the Secretary of the Conference, Board of Examiners and the representatives of the theological faculty of any connexional college within the bounds of the Conference, whose duty it shall be to prepare before the meeting of the ministerial session of Conference, a record of the standing in all its phases of each probationer (and candidate), as reported at the district meetings, and to make report of the same through its secretary to the ministerial session of Conference as this may be required.

127. A record of the proceedings of the Ministerial Sessions shall be kept by the Secretary, who shall report the same to the Annual Conference for information and insertion in the Journal of Conference, and not for discussion.

Business of the Ministerial Session.

128. The presiding officer shall open the session with the usual devotional services, after which he shall cause the roll of the ministerial members of the Confer-

ence to be called. He shall then ask the following questions:

1. What ministers or probationers have been transferred to or from this Conference?

2. Who are appointed as a Committee on Conference Relations?

3 (a) What supernumerary ministers are recommended to be restored to the active work?

(b) What ministers are recommended to a supernumerary relation? (This is intended to include all ministers who, for any reason, have ceased to be members of the Superannuation Fund.)

4. What superannuated ministers are recommended to be restored to the active work?

5. What superannuated ministers are recommended to be continued in that relation?

6. What ministers are now recommended to a superannuated relation?

7. Are there any objections or charges preferred against any of our ministers or probationers?

To this inquiry each District Secretary shall answer for his District, after which time shall be given to each chairman to report any charges preferred between District Meeting and Conference, and to report the progress made in the investigation of such charges.

8. Who have resigned from the ministry of our Church and are entitled to credentials of standing? Except in cases where satisfactory evidence is given

that the ordination parchment of a minister has been lost or destroyed, a minister who resigns shall not be given credentials of standing until the ordination parchment has been returned. No credentials shall be given until all claims in favor of the Educational and other connexional funds are settled.

9. Who have withdrawn from our work during the year, and what is the action of the Conference in each case?

10. What probationers are dropped in silence?

11. Who are suspended from the ministry?

12. Who are deposed from the ministry?

13. Who are deposed from the ministry and expelled from the Church?

14. Who have been ordained for special reasons during the year?

15. What probationers for the ministry are now received into full connexion with the Conference and ordained?

16. What probationers for the ministry remain on trial?

(a) What is the standing given in each case with respect to years travelled on circuit and years in attendance at college?

(b) What probationers appointed to college have been given permission not to attend?

(c) What probationers appointed to college have left college irregularly?

17. What probationers are on the list of reserve?

18. What candidates for the ministry are now received on trial?

19. What is the report of the Committee on Conference Relations?

20. What is the Report of the Committee on the Pastoral Address?

21. Who are the Committee on the Pastoral Address for next year?

22. Who are now located?

SECTION V.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

129. Each Annual Conference shall be composed of all ministers within its jurisdiction who have been received into full connexion, and an equal number of laymen who have been elected as elsewhere provided.

130. 1. Each Annual Conference shall assemble not earlier than the first Wednesday in May, and not later than the last Wednesday in June, of each year, and shall within this limitation determine the time and place of its meeting from year to year; provided that any Conference on Foreign Mission fields may assemble as early as the first Wednesday in April.

2. The officers of each Annual Conference shall call the following Conference committees together, viz., Nominating Committee, Missionary Committee, Sunday School Committee, Epworth League Committee, Statistical Committee, and Committee on the State of the Work, not later than the first day of the sessions of the Annual Conference.

3. Each Annual Conference shall allocate all lay delegates, not already appointed on any committee, to some committee of the Conference, and shall allocate to such committees an equivalent number of ministerial members.

131. Each Annual Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, from among its ministerial members in the active work, a President. It shall also elect by ballot, without debate, a Secretary.

132. The Secretary shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Conference, which shall be fully written up and signed by the President and the Secretary within thirty days after the close of the Conference sessions, and preserved among the documents of the Conference: he shall publish the statistical returns as reported from the Districts to Conference, and immediately after Conference shall report the same to the General Conference Statistician: also, he shall forward to the Book Steward, in addition to the abridged reports furnished for publication in the Year Book, a complete copy of the reports of committees, and important resolutions adopted by the Conference; these shall be preserved at the Book Room as a complete registry of the business of all Annual Conferences of the Methodist Church, and to be available for the information of any member of the Church.

Duties of Presiding Officers.

133. 1. The General Superintendent, when present, shall open the Annual Conference, and preside during

the first day of its sessions, and afterwards alternately with the President elected by the Conference. In the absence of the General Superintendent the President shall take the chair and open the Conference. In association with the President, the General Superintendent shall conduct the ordination service, and they shall sign jointly the ordination parchments. But all other duties pertaining to the presidency of the Annual Conference shall be vested in the President elected by that body, and in the absence of the General Superintendent he shall conduct the ordination service.

2. Any act of ordination of a probationer authorized by the Ministerial Session of an Annual Conference performed by the President during the year shall be reported in writing by him to the next Ministerial Session. Such report shall state the name of the probationer and the time and place of the ordination, and shall be recorded in the Journal.

3. Any question of law arising in the Annual Conference during its sessions shall be determined by the General Superintendent or President presiding, but any member of the Conference may appeal from such decision to the Court of Appeal.

4. The President of an Annual Conference shall have authority also to decide questions of law arising in the Conference committees over which he presides, but any member of the Conference shall have the right to appeal to the Court of Appeal.

5. The President of an Annual Conference shall hear and determine appeals from the decisions of Chairmen of

Districts within the Conference on questions of law, within sixty days from the date of the appeal; notice of such appeal to be given within thirty days after notice of the decision appealed against.

6. A written, instead of an oral, argument may be put in, and shall be considered before coming to a decision in the case of any appeal.

7. Where the President of the Conference is interested in the appeal, either personally or because of having been concerned in any way in the trial appealed from, the appeal may be taken directly to the General Superintendent or to the Court of Appeal.

8. All such decisions and rulings shall be given in writing, and recorded in the Journal of the Annual Conference. The President of the Annual Conference immediately preceding the General Conference shall collect such decisions rendered during the quadrennium, and report the same to the General Conference.

9. On questions of the administration of Discipline, appeals on questions of law, and respecting all other unfinished official business, it shall be the duty of the President of the Annual Conference to administer upon such of the above-named questions as may have been left unsettled by his predecessor in office; and in general the principle of the continuity of the presidential office from year to year is hereby affirmed.

10. The President of each Annual Conference preceding the General Conference, with the assistance of the Chairmen of Districts, shall prepare a report of the general condition of the work in his Conference, which

shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the General Conference, and by him referred to the Committee on the State of the Work for its consideration.

134. The President of the Annual Conference shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the District in which he may be stationed during the year of his presidency.

135. In the event of the death or disability of the President of an Annual Conference, the last ex-President who is at the time a member of the Conference shall immediately enter upon the duties of the presidency, and discharge them during the continuance of such disability, or to the end of the year; but in case there be no ex-President of such Annual Conference, then the Secretary of such Conference shall call together the Special Committee, who shall elect by ballot a President, who shall continue in office till the ensuing Conference or during such disability; and in case of the transfer of the President of a Conference his presidency shall cease with his chairmanship.

Stationing of Ministers.

136. Each Annual Conference shall have a Stationing Committee, composed of the President of the Conference (who shall preside in the committee), the Chairmen of Districts, and one minister elected by each District Meeting. Such election shall be by the joint votes of ministers, probationers and laymen, and shall always be by ballot.

137. Each Annual District Meeting shall elect in addition to their representative to the Stationing Com-

mittee one reserve representative, who, in case of sickness or unavoidable absence of the representative causing his resignation before the first meeting of the Stationing Committee, shall be the legal representative of the District.

138. Each Annual Conference shall station all the ministers and probationers for the ministry within its bounds according to the rules of the Discipline on the Stationing Committee, and it shall have authority to require that all appointments made by the Stationing Committee shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline.

139. When the stations have been confirmed by the second reading of them to the Conference, the Secretary shall read over successively the names of the ministers stationed in each District, and the Conference shall elect by ballot one of its members so stationed to be Chairman for the ensuing year.

140. Immediately after the election of the Chairman is declared by the President, the Chairman shall nominate a Financial Secretary, and a Sunday School Secretary, for his District, and the Conference, if it approves, shall appoint the same.

Election of Delegates to General Conference.

141. Each Annual Conference, at the session next preceding each quadrennial meeting of the General Conference, shall divide into Ministerial and Lay Electoral Conferences for the purpose of electing delegates; each body electing its own representatives. They shall

be from within the jurisdiction of the Annual Conference electing them. The ministerial delegates shall be elected by ballot; the lay delegates by nomination and ballot.

142. The ministerial delegates shall consist of one member for every twelve ministerial members of each Annual Conference; provided, nevertheless, that a fraction of one-half shall entitle a Conference to an additional representative.

143. In order to an election each delegate to the General Conference must receive a majority of the votes of the members of the Electoral Conference who may be present and vote.

144. No layman shall be chosen a delegate to the General Conference who is under twenty-five years of age, or who has not been a member of the Church continuously during the five years next preceding his election.

145. Each Electoral Conference, after the election of the number of delegates to which it is entitled, shall further proceed to elect a reserve delegate, and, in addition, one reserve delegate for every five members, or fraction thereof of three-fifths, it is entitled to send.

146. The Secretary of each Electoral Conference shall report to the Annual Conference the names of the delegates elected to the General Conference, in the order of their election; and the President and Secretary, as soon as practicable, shall report their names and addresses to the Secretary of the General Conference.

147. When vacancies occur in the delegation before the meeting of the General Conference by reason of

death, resignation, or other cause, the reserves of the respective Annual Conference shall have precedence in the order of their election, and be notified thereof by the President of their Annual Conference. In the case of a vacancy caused by death, or by resignation in writing, during the session of the General Conference, the Conference may fill the vacancy from the list of reserve delegates. When a principal delegate's place has been declared vacant and filled by a reserve, such principal delegate shall not afterwards be permitted to take his place, either during the regular, or an adjourned, or special, session of the General Conference. When vacancies have been declared the President of the Annual Conference shall immediately report the same to the Secretary of the General Conference.

148. At the first, second and third Annual Conferences succeeding a General Conference, all vacancies in the delegation, by reason of death, resignation, transfer, or other cause, shall be filled according to the rules in the preceding paragraphs, further ministerial and lay reserve delegates being elected to succeed those who have been taken to fill vacancies, or who have been advanced to a higher place on the list. If a lay delegate moves, and takes his church membership out of an Annual Conference, his place as a member of the General Conference shall be declared vacant.

Miscellaneous.

149. The lay members of each Annual Conference may hold special sessions during the sessions of the Conference, and the proceedings of these sessions may

be reported to the Conference for information, consideration, and action.

150. Each Annual Conference shall have the power to determine the date of the closing of the financial year within its own limits. All accounts and returns for the Conference year shall be closed at the Annual District Meeting. In arranging financial claims between ministers serving the same circuit during different parts of the same year, the Conference year shall begin on the final reading of the stations.

151. Each Annual Conference may form a Transportation Fund to equalize travelling expenses to Annual Conference, making such plans as are suitable to itself for this purpose.

152. Each Annual Conference may appoint a Board of Trust to receive and acquire all bequests, legacies and other gifts (whether real or personal) in favor of such Annual Conference or in favor of the Methodist Church for application to all interests within the jurisdiction of said Conference, and to give full and absolute receipts, releases or discharges to the donors or grantors, or to the representatives of such, and therefore to convey, transfer, distribute or administer the property so received or acquired in accordance with the conditions (if any) attached to the said bequests, legacies or gifts by the instruments creating or conveying them. Each Board of Trust may also receive, hold and convey any other property (real or personal) that any individual, corporation, board, committee or Conference shall request or authorize it to receive, on the terms of the grant or transfer to it.

153. Each Annual Conference may appoint a Conference Registrar, whose duties as recorder, custodian, or in other capacity, shall be determined by the Conference.

154. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Special Committee, consisting of the President and Secretary of Conference, the Chairmen of Districts, and five lay members of the Conference, nominated by the President. This committee shall have power to consider and decide upon all matters affecting the Conference which could not have been provided for at the time of the sitting of the Conference; but permission to sell Church property shall be wholly with the Annual Conference. A ministerial session of the Annual Conference Special Committee may be called by the President as circumstances may require, the proceedings to be reported to the Ministerial Session of the ensuing Annual Conference. The Special Committee shall report its proceedings to the next ensuing Annual Conference.

Business of the Annual Conference.

155. The business of the ordinary session of the Annual Conference shall proceed in the following order:

1. The presiding officer shall open the Conference with the usual devotional services. He shall then call for the names of the laymen reported as elected by the District Meetings. The roll of the Conference shall then be called in such manner as the Conference may determine.

2. The Conference shall then elect by ballot its President, and then its Secretary. The Secretary shall

nominate the Conference Statistical Secretary, who shall be Chairman of the Statistical Committee, after which the Conference shall fill any vacancies in the office of Chairmen of Districts.

3. The following questions shall be asked and answered:

(a) What is the report of the Ministerial Session of the Conference?

(b) What is the report of the Conference Special Committee?

(c) What decisions have been rendered on questions of law by the President during the year?

(d) Who compose the several Conference Committees: Church Property; Class Leaders, Local Preachers and Other Lay Agencies; Contingent Fund; Educational Epworth Leagues; Finance and Systematic Beneficence; Memorials and Miscellaneous Resolutions; Missionary; Nominations; Sabbath Observance; Evangelism and Social Service; State of the Work; Stationing; Statistical Returns; Sunday Schools; Sustentation?

(e) What ministers or probationers for the ministry have died during the year?

(f) What probationers are recommended by District Meeting to attend college? What is the report of the Educational Committee concerning each probationer? It shall be the duty of the Secretary of Conference to report to the President of each college concerned the names of the probationers who have been sent to that college, and the District to which each belongs.

(g) Who compose the Board of Examiners for this year?

(h) What minister and what layman are elected on the General Board of Missions for next quadrennium? (Only for the Conference preceding the General Conference.)

(i) Who are appointed representatives to the General Conference Board of Evangelism and Social Service for next year? (Par. 339, sec. 3.)

(j) What member of the General Conference Board of Evangelism and Social Service has been appointed to attend the annual meeting of the Board? (Only for Conferences outside Ontario. Par. 341, sec. 3.)

(k) Who are the Conference Treasurers for the Connexional Funds: General Conference? Contingent? Young People's Societies? Evangelism and Social Service? Church and Parsonage Aid? Education? Superannuation?

(l) Who are elected to fill vacancies in the General Conference delegations?

(m) What new districts, circuits, and missions have been formed?

(n) What changes in relation to church property are now recommended?

(o) What are the numbers of church members, families, churches, and other places of worship, and attendance on worship on each circuit and mission? What are the numbers of deaths of members, baptisms administered, and of marriages solemnized by each minister?

(p) What are the numbers of ministers, probationers for the ministry, and lay members of the Quarterly Offi-

cial Boards? Of Sunday schools? And (at the Conference preceding the General Conference) what connexional property is returned? These questions shall be answered in accordance with the authorized Conference schedules.

(*q*) What has been collected on each District for the various connexional funds? Have these amounts been remitted at the proper time to the several treasurers, and paid over to the several claimants?

(*r*) What are the reports of the several committees?

(*s*) Who have been appointed by the District Meetings as District Missionary Committee? Who is Secretary of the Committee? The name of the District Missionary Secretary shall be printed at the end of each District in the Station List.

(*t*) What minister and what layman are elected to the Annual Conference Missionary Committee for the next quadrennium?

(*u*) Who compose the Conference Finance Committee?

(*v*) Who have been appointed by the District Meetings as District Finance Committee? (Par. 360.)

(*w*) Who are the District Secretaries of Evangelism and Social Service for the ensuing year?

(*x*) Have the District Sunday School and Epworth League Conventions been held?

(*y*) Who compose the standing committee of three on Sabbath Observance?

(*z*) What further measures can be adopted for the promotion of the work of God within or beyond the

bounds of the Conference, and what are the recommendations of the District Meetings on this important subject?

(*aa*) Where are the ministers and probationers for the ministry stationed for the ensuing year?

(*bb*) Who are the Chairmen of Districts, the Financial Secretaries, the District Sunday School Secretaries, and the District Educational Secretaries for the ensuing year?

(*cc*) Who compose the Conference Special Committee?

(*dd*) Where and when shall the next Conference be held?

SECTION VI.

THE STATIONING COMMITTEE.

156. 1. The Stationing Committee shall meet, at the call of the President, at the place appointed for holding the Annual Conference, and previous to the commencement of its sessions. It shall meet also as often as may be necessary during the sessions of the Conference for the revision of the stations.

2. Any minister shall have the right to appear before the committee to represent his case in regard to his appointment.

3. Any Quarterly Official Board shall have the right to present its own case concerning an appointment to the circuit by not more than two representatives. These representatives shall be members of the Official Board

and must be appointed at a regular meeting of the Board, or at a special meeting of the Board called for this purpose only, by the Superintendent of the circuit, or by two other members of the Board, all members having been notified, and a majority being present. The representatives shall submit written authorization of their appointment.

4. The first draft of stations, in printed form, shall be placed on the table of the Conference at the close of the first session, and copies shall be supplied to the members; the second and final draft at any time before the close of the Conference, as the Conference may order. At least one of the Christian names of each minister and probationer shall be published instead of the initials only.

5. The Stationing Committee shall not allow any minister or probationer for the ministry to remain more than four years successively on the same circuit or mission except the General Conference officers, superannuated and supernumerary ministers, the missionaries to the French, the Indians, the Japanese and Chinese in Canada, and in the foreign fields, and such ministers as may be appointed to our educational institutions, and to such churches and institutions as any Annual Conference on the recommendation of a two-thirds majority vote of the Stationing Committee may set apart year by year; and missionaries working under local City Mission Boards upon the request of the Board concerned; nor shall a minister after removal be reappointed to a circuit or mission within a less interval than four years.

6. On the division of a circuit, no minister who has travelled successively the four preceding years on such circuit shall be appointed to either part of it; nevertheless, this rule shall not apply to those places which may be transferred in adjusting the work by the Annual District Meeting, which transfer has been sanctioned by the Stationing Committee.

7. The President of an Annual Conference, and the Chairman and Financial Secretary of each District concerned, shall have authority to change the stations of ministers or probationers in the intervals of Conference, when circumstances which were not foreseen by the Stationing Committee shall appear to them to demand such change. When the changes are made within the District where the President is stationed, the latest ex-President within the jurisdiction of the Conference shall be a member of the committee. When any of the above-mentioned officers are personally affected they shall be disqualified as members of the committee, and their places shall be filled by the senior Chairman of the Conference, from among other Chairmen and Financial Secretaries, respectively, who are stationed within the Conference.

8. From among probationers received by an Annual Conference during the quadrennium, the Stationing Committee shall appoint only so many as are urgently needed to supply existing fields. All others shall be put upon a list of reserve, which shall be placed in the hands of the General Superintendent, and, on the request of the President of any Annual Conference, he

shall select supplies from this list, for any vacancies that may occur.

9. In each Conference the number of fields receiving the services of single men shall be commensurate with the demands of the work; that is, the filling of vacancies which arise from the natural sources of depletion and from the proper and healthy expansion of our work.

10. In each Conference the number of candidates stationed each year shall be determined solely by:

(a) Those required to fill vacancies caused by resignation, death and superannuation.

(b) Those needed for the proper and healthy expansion of the work.

(c) In order to maintain the proper correspondence between the number of single men's fields and the number of candidates stationed by an Annual Conference in any one year, the said number of candidates stationed should not exceed the result obtained from the division of the number of single men's fields by the number of years required of each probationer on circuit work.

11. In order to better enforce the provisions of subsecs. 8, 9, and 10 of this paragraph, the Superannuation Fund Board is hereby authorized, through the Treasurer of the Fund, or through some minister in each Annual Conference appointed by the board, to confer and co-operate with the Stationing Committee in giving effect to the requirements of the Discipline in this behalf.

12. Ministers left without a station for a year shall be assigned to a circuit, and probationers sent to college

or left on the list of reserves shall be assigned to a District.

13. To the name of each Graduate in Arts who is a probationer in circuit work shall be attached the name of the connexional college in which he is to be examined on his Conference Course of Study.

14. The names of the colleges to which probationers are sent shall appear with their names in the respective Districts in the final draft of stations.

15. All probationers in the General Course who have travelled three years, and all graduates who have travelled two years, are required to attend college for the prescribed term.

Formation of Circuits, Districts and Missions.

157. 1. Districts are to be formed according to the judgment of the Stationing Committee, subject to the approval of the Annual Conference.

2. Circuits are to be formed by the Stationing Committee, on the recommendation of the District Meeting. Provided, nevertheless, that circuits supporting their own ministers shall not be divided till such divisions have been approved by their respective Quarterly Official Boards, and their approval signified in writing by the Recording Steward; or, otherwise, by a two-thirds vote of the Annual District Meeting, when the laymen are present.

3. Each Annual Conference may appoint a commission on rearrangement of circuits and Districts, which shall have power to consider any rearrange-

ment of circuits or Districts, with or without any request from an Official Board or a District Meeting; and in considering changes of rural circuits shall have in view the necessity of assuring the minister an adequate salary. It shall report its findings to the Annual Conference, which shall have power to take final action; provided always that sufficient notice be given to the circuits concerned.

4. New missions shall be created only by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference, and only under the following restrictions: No new home mission shall be formed by dividing an existing mission, unless by such division (*a*) part of the original mission becomes independent, or (*b*) the missionaries are enabled to take up new and really destitute territory. This clause shall not supersede the authority given to the Superintendents of Missions to form new missions or self-supporting circuits, where considered necessary, in the intervals of the Annual Conference sessions.

5. No circuit which has been self-supporting for a married man shall be placed upon the list of missions without the recommendation of the May District Meeting, given by a three-fourths vote, and consented to by a three-fourths vote of the ensuing Annual Conference.

6. No new home mission shall be formed by dividing or attaching appointments from one or more self-supporting circuits or stations unless by a three-fourths vote of the District Meeting and Annual Conference.

7. When any new home mission has been formed, a statement signed by the President and Secretary of

the Conference, giving a list of such missions, and certifying that they have been formed in accordance with the foregoing regulations, shall be sent to the General Secretary of the Missionary Society within one month after the rising of Conference.

SECTION VII.

THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS.

158. 1. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Board of Examiners. This Board shall examine the candidates and probationers for the ministry belonging to such Conference upon the prescribed course of study by printed or written questions, supplemented where necessary by oral examinations, and issue certificates to the successful candidates and probationers on forms prepared by order of the General Conference. Each candidate and probationer shall present his certificate to the ministerial session of the Annual District Meeting, and shall be prepared to submit it at any time to Conference or college authorities when required so to do.

2. Each Examining Board shall have authority to accept Provincial teachers' certificates of the *first* or *second* class, matriculation certificates, and undergraduates' certificates, for such subjects of the Course of Study as are covered by these certificates.

3. Superintendents of Circuits shall report to the Secretary of the Board of Examiners, immediately

after the third Quarterly Meeting, the names and addresses of all candidates coming up for examination in the Preliminary Course.

4. Candidates for the ministry shall be required to present (a) a certificate or other evidence of matriculation into a Canadian or other British university; or (b) an equivalent certificate from one of our own colleges; provided that a candidate who has not taken Greek shall be required to pass a satisfactory examination in Moulton's Introduction to the Study of New Testament Greek, or some equivalent text, before taking the examinations in Greek Testament of the Probationers' Course.

5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of each Conference or College Examining Board to give a record of standing in each subject to each candidate or probationer, showing how far he has advanced in his course; and for this purpose every probationer shall forward his certificate to the Secretary for entry of additional subjects to his credit in time to submit it to the Annual District Ministerial Session.

6. The standard qualification for young men recommended to be received into our Conferences as probationers shall be not lower than fifty per cent. in the aggregate of the marks on the preliminary course for non-matriculants, and thirty-three and one-third per cent. in each subject; the same in theological subjects for matriculants in Arts; also a standing of fifty per cent. shall be required in order to pass in each subject of the subsequent course for probationers on circuit.

7. The Secretary of the Examining Board shall keep a register exclusively for the record of the standing obtained by each candidate and probationer at the Conference and College theological examinations.

SECTION VIII.

EVANGELISTS.

159. 1. Each Annual Conference shall have power to make rules and regulations by which to select and authorize Evangelists, and direct evangelistic work within its bounds.

2. No Evangelists shall be employed whose teaching is not in harmony with our Doctrinal Standards, or whose work tends to lessen attachment to our Church.

3. No Annual Conference shall appoint a minister or probationer as an Evangelist without clear evidence that he is called of God to that work.

4. No minister or probationer shall enter upon the field at large as an Evangelist without the consent of his Conference.

5. Superintendents of circuits employing Evangelists other than recognized ministers of the Methodist Church shall engage only those who are amenable to the Church in respect to the doctrines they teach, and labor under the supervision of the pastor, and with the consent of the Quarterly Board where they are employed.

6. Evangelists other than recognized ministers and

local preachers of our Church who may be employed by the Superintendent of a circuit shall undergo an examination under the provision of the Chairman of the District, and previously to commencing their work, similar to that provided in the Discipline for local preachers.

7. No Superintendent of a circuit shall be permitted to employ any unauthorized Evangelist without first obtaining the consent of the Chairman of the District.

8. When any minister is employed as an Evangelist arrangements shall be made by which he shall receive a regular salary from contributions paid into a fund for that purpose.

CHAPTER II.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

SECTION I.

160. 1. The territory occupied by each Annual Conference is divided into Districts, according to the judgment of the Stationing Committee, subject to the approval of the Annual Conference.

2. There shall be an Annual District Meeting, with a Ministerial Session; a Financial District Meeting; and, wherever practicable, meetings of the District in the months of November and February, to be arranged by the Financial District Meeting, for the purpose of reviewing the whole work on the District.

SECTION II.

MINISTERIAL SESSION OF THE ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING.

161. 1. A Ministerial Session, composed of all ministers within the jurisdiction of the District, for the business to be transacted by the ministers alone, shall be held in advance of the meeting of the District for general business, at such time as the Chairman of the District shall determine.

2. A record of the proceedings of the Ministerial Session shall be kept by a Secretary appointed for that purpose, who shall report the same to the District Meeting for information and insertion in the District Minutes; said record to be duly forwarded to the Annual Conference.

3. The ministers of the District, in session assembled, shall examine the character and qualifications of all ministers and probationers for the ministry belonging to the District, in accordance with the Discipline.

4. The business of the Ministerial Session shall proceed in the following order:

(a) The presiding officer shall open the session with the usual devotional services.

(b) A Secretary of the Ministerial Session shall be elected, and the roll of the ministerial members of the District shall be called.

(c) The Chairman shall then inquire concerning each minister—

(1) Is there any objection to his moral or religious character?

(2) Is there any objection to his doctrinal views and teachings?

(3) Has he duly observed and enforced our Discipline?

(4) Has he been punctual in attending all his appointments?

(5) Has he competent abilities for our itinerant work?

Time shall be given after the fifth question, and after the announcement of each name, for the presentation of any objection or charge, which may be dealt with as elsewhere provided. If there be no objections or charges, the Secretary shall so report to the Annual Conference.

In the case of ministerial missionaries in the foreign field these questions shall be asked by the Chairman of the Mission Council, and the Council shall report through the General Board of Missions to the District Meetings or Annual Conferences respectively concerned.

(d) The Chairman then shall conduct the District Meeting theological examination of probationers as provided in Par. 162, after which he shall ask the questions contained in section 4 (c) of this paragraph with reference to each probationer on the District.

(e) Who have been on probation for the ministry five years, and are now recommended to be received into full connexion and ordained?

(f) What graduates have been on probation for four years, and are now recommended to be received into full connexion and ordained?

(g) Has each probationer now recommended to be received into full connexion and ordained paid in full his personal assessment to the Superannuation or Supernumerary Fund?

(h) Who are recommended to be continued on probation, and what is the standing recommended in each case with respect to years travelled on a circuit, and years of attendance at college?

(i) What probationers are on the list of reserve?

NOTE.—For regulations as to probationers see Paragraphs 162 to 168, and sections thereof.

(j) What candidates are recommended to be received on probation for the ministry? (Their full Christian names shall be recorded in the District and Conference Journals and published in the Minutes.)

NOTE.—For regulations as to candidates for the ministry see Paragraphs 169 to 171, and sections thereof.

(k) What ministers or probationers for the ministry have died?

(l) What Superannuated Ministers are recommended to be continued in that relation, and who are now recommended to that relation?

(m) What Supernumerary Ministers are recommended to be continued in that relation, and who are now recommended to that relation?

(*n*) What Superannuated or Supernumerary Ministers are recommended to be restored to the active work?

(*o*) What minister or probationer has resigned and is recommended to receive credentials of standing?

(*p*) Who have withdrawn from our work during the year, and what is the recommendation of the District in the case?

(*q*) Who have been suspended during the year, and what is the recommendation of the Ministerial Session in the case?

(*r*) Can any measures be adopted for increasing the efficiency of our ministerial labors and the promotion of the work of God?

(1) Are all the means possible used to visit all the towns and settlements within the boundaries of each circuit or mission?

(2) Are there earnest attempts made, in every place where there are services, to form classes?

(3) Is sufficient time allotted in the arrangement for the visitation of the classes and the renewal of tickets for the Superintendent, or his assistant, to acquaint himself with the state of each member and to give suitable advice to each? Have the classes been regularly met, and the tickets, to both adults and catechumens, been regularly renewed according to Discipline?

(4) Have the General Rules been read during the year, and have they been given to the members on probation, also to catechumens before advancement to the status of adult members, according to the Discipline?

(5) Do the brethren pay sufficient attention to pastoral visitation, to visiting the public schools, and otherwise, as opportunity may offer, instructing the children of our congregations?

(6) Have the children of suitable age been gathered into catechumen classes?

5. These important inquiries shall be followed by a solemn review of the state of the work of God. And any suggestions for the religious improvement of the children and the members of our Church, and especially for the greater efficiency of our ministerial labors, are to be entered on the minutes of the District Meeting and, when thought necessary, recommended to the consideration of the Annual Conference.

6. All the foregoing questions and directions shall be considered as belonging to the examination of character and ministerial affairs, and as pertaining to the Ministerial Session of the District Meeting.

SECTION III.

REGULATIONS AS TO PROBATIONERS FOR THE MINISTRY.

162. *District Meeting Examination.*

1. In addition to the preceding course of inquiry, the following questions are to be put every year by the Chairman to every probationer for the ministry on the District, but they need not be inserted in the District minutes. It is enough to say that the usual questions were put to the probationers and satisfactorily

answered; or, if otherwise, to state the case clearly. The questions at the College District Meeting may be conducted as a written examination, and all questions irrelevant to probationers at college may be omitted.

(a) Have you now faith in Christ and are you striving to serve His cause with a fully consecrated life?

(b) Do you endeavor to promote in your own life by appropriate practice growth in the gifts and graces of a devoted Christian life?

(c) Have you attended carefully to visiting the sick, praying with the people in their homes, and have you by personal conversation endeavored to lead the people individually to accept Christ as their Saviour and Lord?

(d) What is true evangelical repentance? How does a man find peace with God? How do men come to know they are at one with God?

(e) What do you regard as the essential elements of a fully consecrated Christian life?

(f) How will this life manifest itself in the home, in the community, and in the wider human relationships?

Let these points be supported in order by appropriate passages of Holy Writ.

2. The brethren will see the propriety of conducting this part of the proceedings with peculiar deliberation and solemnity, as in the immediate presence of God; and they may enlarge on doctrinal questions as they may deem it necessary, so as to lead the probationers to a right understanding and an appropriate expression of the distinguishing doctrines of our Church.

3. The Chairman shall examine also every probationer for the ministry respecting his acquaintance with the books recommended to him, and the general course of reading which he has pursued during the preceding year. For this purpose every such probationer is required to deliver to the Chairman of his District a list of the books which he has read since the preceding Annual District Meeting, apart from text-books required in his Course of Study. This list shall be laid before the meeting, that the senior ministers may have an opportunity of giving to the probationers such advice and direction respecting their studies as may appear necessary.

163. *Length of Probation.*

1. The time for probationers for our ministry to remain on probation shall be not less than as follows:

(a) Undergraduates taking a full university course in Arts and Theology, and obtaining the degree of B.D., prior to reception into full connexion, not less than three years, of which one year shall be spent on a circuit. In cases of this class, two years at college may be allowed, at the discretion of the Conference.

(b) Graduates in Arts, and undergraduates taking the B.A. degree prior to reception into full connexion, two years at college occupied exclusively in theological studies, and one year on circuit.

In both cases (a) and (b), the term of probation, however, shall be not less than three years.

(c) All others, five years, two on a circuit and three at college; the years at college to be arranged in rela-

tion to the years on circuits as the Annual Conference may determine.

(d) Notwithstanding anything in the requirements of the Discipline to the contrary, in the case of a probationer doing military service, an Annual Conference shall have power to accept military service in lieu of circuit work, provided he has spent at least one year on a circuit.

2. Nothing in this section shall interfere with the provisions and constitution of the Superannuation Fund, which allows for only three years on probation, and the Supernumerary Fund, which allows for four years.

3. The terms university and recognized university, wherever used in the Discipline in regard to the standing of probationers and ministers, shall always mean a British or Canadian university, or other university recognized by these; also the Examining Boards of Annual Conferences are authorized to accept *pro-tanto* university degrees in Agriculture and Science for the B.A. degree when presented by candidates for our ministry.

164. *Attendance at College.*

1. All probationers for our ministry shall attend at one of our Theological Colleges for a period of not less than three years, except in cases of married probationers, who may, upon recommendation of the Conference Board of Examiners, together with a three-fourths vote of the Ministerial Session of the Annual Conference, be exempt from attendance at college; but

in no case shall they be exempt from passing the required examinations in the ordinary Course of Study.

2. The Faculties in Theology in the different colleges are authorized to require students to take the equivalent of the full Conference course prescribed for each year.

3. No probationer having been appointed to a college shall be removed therefrom to a circuit, or to another college, except by the authority of the President of the Conference, with the consent of the Chairman of the District and of the Presidents or Deans of Theology of the college or colleges concerned.

4. Probationers appointed to attend any of our Theological Colleges shall pursue the Course of Study prescribed.

165. *College District Meeting.*

1. The examinations prescribed for probationers in Annual District Meetings shall be conducted annually at each College District Meeting, and a report of the examination of each student shall be forwarded to the Chairman of the District to which the student belongs for use at the Ministerial Session. All probationers at college are expected to attend the College District Meeting.

2. The examination of probationers for our ministry in our Theological Colleges or Universities, in regard to their *studies*, shall be by examiners appointed by the authorities of such institutions; and in regard to their *moral character and qualification for the minis-*

try, by the College District Meeting, composed of the ministerial members of the Faculty in each case, and the ministers of our Church residing in the place where the institution is located, the Chairman of the District presiding, or, in his absence, the Dean of the Theological Faculty.

166. *Standing in the Course of Study.*

1. Every probationer for the ministry shall pursue the Course of Study prescribed by the General Conference; and before he shall be received into full connexion he shall submit to the District Ministerial Session from year to year his certificate of standing in his Course of Study.

2. Each probationer and candidate shall present to the District Ministerial Session the certificate of his standing in their Course of Study. The Secretary shall announce and record how far the required course is completed, for transmission of the information to the Conference Ministerial Session; and he shall return the certificates at once to the probationers and candidates.

3. The Registrar of each college where candidates for our ministry pass the Preliminary Course, or to which probationers for the ministry are assigned, shall be required to forward the records of examinations in the subjects of Theology in the Preliminary Course, also in the subjects in the prescribed Course of Study in college, to the Secretary of each Annual Conference Examining Board concerned.

4. The Secretary or Registrar of the Board of Examiners when reporting the results of examinations

shall specify the particular author studied, and if not the same as in the regular course for probationers on circuits, shall designate for which author in that course such work is designed to be an equivalent.

5. In the case of probationers, the Registrar of the Faculty shall send a certificate of standing of each student at college, including those taking the B.D. course, to the Secretary of the Examining Board of the Conference concerned.

6. A certificate of a student's having passed in any subject in one of our colleges shall be taken in lieu of an examination in such subject.

7. Candidates and probationers for our French, Indian and Foreign Work shall pursue the respective course of study prescribed.

8. Graduates in Divinity shall be exempted from the ordinary Course of Study. In the case of probationers who are pursuing the B.D. course authorized by one of our colleges, the annual examination in such Course of Study shall be accepted instead of the annual examination in the regular course for any year. But prior to being recommended to be received into full connexion and ordained, they shall be examined on Wesley's Sermons, the History of Methodism, and the Discipline of the Methodist Church. This examination shall be required also of all probationers passing through our Theological Colleges who have not been examined on these subjects in their Course of Study.

167. *Attendance at District Meeting.*

1. Probationers attending college are not required to

be present at the District Ministerial Session to which they belong, except when eligible for recommendation for reception into full connexion and ordination, but their names shall be called, and the reports from their College District Meeting shall be read, and their cases recommended to the Conference Ministerial Session as the District Ministerial Session shall determine.

2. Every probationer who has been recommended by the District Ministerial Session for reception into full connexion shall attend the Conference of that year, except those laboring in distant missions.

3. Probationers for the ministry appointed to attend college shall be responsible to such District Ministerial Session as the Conference may determine, and shall be recommended by said District Ministerial Session from year to year, for continuance on probation, or for reception into full connexion and ordination; nevertheless, any such probationer who has been removed from college, by the proper authorities, to a circuit or mission, shall be a member of the District to which such circuit or mission belongs, and by its District Ministerial Session shall his relation be considered and presented to Conference.

168. *Miscellaneous Regulations.*

1. A probationer who marries without the consent of the Annual Conference, or the Annual Conference Special Committee, may be dropped in silence.

2. When a probationer's name is not inserted in the minutes he must receive a written license from the

President or Chairman of the District on which he resides.

3. If a probationer desist from want of health, or be proven guilty of immorality, it shall be so stated in the minutes. In all other cases the Conference shall exercise its discretion in granting letters of standing.

4. Any minister who has received aid from the Educational Society, and retires from our ministry, shall refund such amount to the Society before receiving a certificate of his standing.

5. When a probationer for the ministry on the List of Reserve has not been called out into the work in the course of the year, the Chairman of the District shall make inquiry of the Superintendent of the Circuit where he resides whether he be still deemed a person proper to be employed in our regular ministry, and the result shall be reported to the Annual District Meeting.

6. Observe: taking on probation is entirely different from admitting a probationer into full connexion. One on probation may be either admitted or rejected without doing him any wrong: otherwise it would have been no probation at all. Let every Chairman explain this to those on probation.

SECTION IV.

REGULATIONS AS TO CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

169. *Recommendation by Quarterly Official Board.*

1. Before a District Ministerial Session shall recommend a candidate to the Conference Ministerial Ses-

sion to be admitted on probation, such candidate must have been a member of our Church for one year, and a local preacher in good standing for six months, and approved and recommended by the Quarterly Official Board of the circuit or mission on which he resides. He must have also a certificate of having completed his Preliminary Course, and a certificate of medical examination as to his state of health.

2. No student of less than two years' standing at one of our connexional institutions shall be received as a candidate for our ministry without the recommendation of the Quarterly Official Board of the circuit upon which he was resident before entering college, together with a certificate of good moral and religious standing from the President, or the Dean of the Faculty of Theology, of the College with which he has been connected.

3. After passing the preliminary examination at college, each student recommended by a Quarterly Official Board shall return to the District to which such Quarterly Official Board belongs for their further examination and for recommendation to the Annual Conference Ministerial Session.

170. *District Ministerial Session Examination.*

1. Each Chairman is required not only to examine very minutely, in the Annual District Ministerial Session, all persons proposed as candidates for our ministry, but also to report distinctly in the District Minutes for the consideration of the Conference Ministerial Session the opinion of the District Ministerial Session, after such examinations, respecting their

health, piety, moral character, ministerial abilities, educational acquirements, belief of our doctrines, attachment to our Discipline, and freedom from debt as well as from all secular encumbrances.

2. Every candidate thus recommended shall attend the ensuing District Ministerial Session, and be examined before all the brethren present respecting his religious experience, his knowledge of divine things, his educational acquirements, his reading, his views of the doctrines of the Gospel, and his regard for Methodism in general.

3. Every candidate proposed to the District Ministerial Session is then to be asked by the Chairman the following questions, to each of which a distinct answer shall be given :

I. (a) Have you a vital Christian experience of Christ as your Saviour, and have you consecrated your life entirely to His service?

(b) Are you determined to pursue the path of Christian service and make the supreme end of your life the constant attainment of greater excellence of character modelled upon the life of Jesus?

II. (a) Are you fully persuaded that you can render the most efficient service in the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God by taking a place in the Christian ministry?

(b) Have you carefully considered the renunciations that such a course entails? Are you prepared, relying upon divine help, to make such renunciations?

III. (a) Have you acquainted yourself with the doctrines of the Methodist Church, and do you find yourself in agreement therewith?

(b) In particular do you believe in (1) a Trinity of Persons in the unity of the Godhead; (2) the atonement made by Jesus Christ; (3) the assurance of forgiveness as a personal experience; (4) the absolute necessity of holiness both in heart and life; (5) and the certainty of future rewards and punishments?

IV. (a) Have you acquainted yourself with the Discipline of the Methodist Church?

(b) Are you willing to be cheerfully governed by the same?

(c) Are you prepared to conduct your life so that it shall be in accordance with the ideal of Christian ministry therein set forth? /

V. (a) Have you been baptized?

(b) Do you use intoxicating drinks, tobacco, or any injurious drug? To this question a distinct answer in the negative shall be required in every case as a condition of continuing on probation from year to year.

(c) Will you guard the purity of your conversation?

(d) In practical affairs will you abstain from questionable transactions?

4. After the examination the candidate shall withdraw, and the meeting shall determine whether he shall be recommended to the ensuing Conference Ministerial Session to be received as a probationer for the ministry.

171. *Miscellaneous Regulations.*

1. No person shall be employed by a Chairman of a District, with a view to entering the ministry, who has been a member of our Church less than one year and a local preacher in good standing for six months, or a local preacher who has been employed as a regular supply on a circuit for three months; nor shall he have authority to employ any person with a view to his reception into the ministry without the consent of the Annual Conference Ministerial Session or of the Special Committee thereof; and in no case shall any person be so employed who has been rejected by a Quarterly Official Board, District Ministerial Session or Annual Conference Ministerial Session.

2. If the Chairman deem it not convenient for a candidate to attend the District Ministerial Session, he may, with two other ministers, examine him and report the result to the District Ministerial Session.

3. All young men taken into the work by Chairmen of Districts, in accordance with the above regulations, before the second meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, shall be allowed the full year. When a young man has travelled under a Chairman for two or more years, only one year will be allowed on the term of his probation.

4. It is to be understood distinctly that probationers are received for the ministry of the Methodist Church, and not merely for that of a particular Conference, and therefore, when so directed by the proper authorities, they are under obligation to proceed to any part of the connexion where their services are required.

SECTION V.

THE ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING.

172. 1. The Annual District Meeting shall consist of all ministers and probationers for the ministry within the bounds of the District, and one lay delegate for each minister or probationer in the active work from each circuit or mission in the District, who shall have been elected by ballot by the Quarterly Official Board. Where a circuit or mission has no minister or probationer, but only a supply, the Quarterly Official Board may elect, by ballot, a lay delegate, who shall be a member of the Annual District Meeting. An alternate for each delegate to the District Meeting shall be elected in the same manner, and at the same time, as the regular delegate.

2. The Chairman shall appoint the time and place of the *first* District Meeting, after which he shall appoint the time and the District Meeting shall decide the place.

3. In the absence of the Chairman the District Meeting shall elect from among its ministerial members, by ballot, without debate, a Chairman, *pro tem*.

4. In case of the death or disability of a Chairman during the year the Financial Secretary shall call a meeting of the ministerial members of the District and the lay members of the previous Annual District Meeting, who shall elect by ballot one of their number, being a member of the Conference, to fill the office for the unexpired term.

5. In case the Chairman is to be transferred his duties

shall cease with the Annual District Meeting, at which meeting his successor shall be elected by ballot to fill his unexpired term.

Auditing of Schedules.

173. 1. The District Meeting shall appoint an Auditing Committee, which shall consist of a layman, who shall be appointed by the Chairman of the District, to act with the Statistical Secretary of the District, in auditing all schedules and see that all extensions and additions are correct, previous to the Annual District Meeting.

2. Financial Secretaries, District Secretaries and Treasurers of Connexional Funds in the Annual Conferences shall require that the amounts received by them agree with the schedules, and that the schedules agree one with the other.

3. In view of the great importance to the Church, in the several departments of its work, of accurate and complete statistical returns, Superintendents of Circuits, District and Statistical Secretaries, Secretaries of Conferences, and all others who may be charged with the preparation of such returns, are requested to pay particular attention to all the requirements of the Discipline in regard to them, and especially to the prompt transmission of them to their final destinations with the departments concerned and the General Conference Statistician.

Election of Laymen to Conference.

174. 1. The lay members of the District Meeting shall meet separately some time during the session and elect by ballot, without debate, lay representatives to the Annual Conference, in the proportion of one for each minister in full connexion within the bounds of the District. They shall elect one alternate also for every three representatives or two-thirds fraction thereof.

2. Laymen to be eligible for election must be at least twenty-five years of age, and must have been members of the Church in good standing for five consecutive years next preceding the election.

3. The Chairman and Secretary of the District shall forthwith send to the Secretary of the Conference a list, certified by them, of such lay representatives, and from such lists shall be compiled the roll of lay members of the Annual Conference. The Secretary of the District shall immediately notify the lay representatives of their election to Conference, and to which committee, if any, they were appointed, asking for a reply, so that the alternate may be notified to attend if necessary.

4. No candidate for our ministry, and no person employed under a Chairman with a view to becoming such a candidate, shall be eligible for election as a lay representative to either District Meeting or Annual Conference.

Business of the District Meeting.

175. After the Chairman has opened the meeting by the usual devotional exercises, a Journal Secretary

shall be elected by ballot, who shall keep a record of the proceedings, including all statistics, in a journal procured for that purpose. At the close of each meeting the minutes shall be signed by the Chairman and Journal Secretary. The journal shall be kept by the Chairman and brought to the Conference, and delivered by him to his successor.

176. The District Statistical Secretary, who shall be elected at the Financial District Meeting, and to whom all circuit schedules must be forwarded at least five days before the date of the Annual District Meeting, shall fill out two sets of District Schedules, one for the Journal Secretary and the other for the use of the Conference.

177. The following order shall be observed when the general business of the District Meeting is under consideration:

1. What members are now present?
2. What is the record of the Ministerial Session of the District?
3. What minister and layman are appointed to audit the schedules?
4. What are the receipts, and what is the expenditure, of each circuit or mission?
5. What has been collected on each circuit and mission for connexional funds?
6. Have subscriptions and collections for the Missionary Fund been taken on every circuit, and have the amounts collected been forwarded to the General Treasurer?

7. Have Educational and Evangelism and Social Service meetings been held on every circuit, and offerings taken according to Discipline?

8. What special cases are now recommended to the favorable consideration of the committees of the several connexional funds?

9. What is the number of ministers' children on the District having claims on the Children's Fund, and what are their respective names and ages? Have all the regulations respecting the Children's Fund been fully carried into effect in the District?

10. What probationers for the ministry are recommended to be sent to College? (For "Aid to Students" during their years at College, see Paragraph 335.)

11. What is the number of church members? The number of churches and other preaching places in each circuit or mission?

Where the name of a circuit or mission has been obliterated by change of boundary, it shall be reported in the District schedule of the next year, and the number of members thereon at the time of the change shall be placed in the columns for "Removed by change of boundaries."

12. What are the numbers of ministers, probationers for the ministry, and laymen, in the Quarterly Official Board of each circuit or mission?

13. What is the report of the Sunday School Secretary of the District?

14. What is the report of the District Epworth League?

15. Have all the schedules been duly filled up?

16. What are the numbers of baptisms administered and of marriages solemnized by each minister? Have all such marriages solemnized during the year been duly recorded and the returns made according to law?

17. What churches or parsonages have been built, enlarged or sold during the year? What connexional property is insured? In what companies? For how much? At what rates? What parsonages have been furnished? What other connexional property has been acquired? Is all property duly deeded to the connexion and registered? What changes in relation to church property are now recommended? What property has been destroyed by fire? Have the approved Conference schedules been duly filled up? Have the Circuit Registers been properly kept?

18. What can be done to improve the financial state of the District?

(a) Are all the financial arrangements of the Church duly observed by each circuit and mission? Has the system of finance ordered by General Conference been applied on all our circuits and missions? Have public collections and private subscriptions been taken as required by Discipline?

(b) What changes are recommended in the order and arrangement of the work on the circuits and missions? What new circuits or missions are recommended? What additional preachers are required for any of the circuits or missions on the District?

19. What are the reports from the several missions on the District?

20. What minister is elected to represent the District on the Stationing Committee?

21. What minister is elected as reserve representative on the Stationing Committee?

22. What laymen are elected as members of the Annual Conference?

23. What ministers and laymen are elected to represent the District on the following committees of the Annual Conference, viz.: Class Leaders, Local Preachers and other Lay Agencies? Epworth Leagues and Young People's Societies? Contingent Fund? Sustentation Fund? Evangelism and Social Service? Memorials and Miscellaneous Resolutions? Sabbath Observance? Church Property? State of the Work? Nominating? Educational? Systematic Beneficence?

24. What layman is elected to the Annual Conference Sunday School Committee?

25. The Bermuda District of the Nova Scotia Conference is authorized to elect a minister and a layman of the Nova Scotia Conference not resident in Bermuda to represent the District on each of the various committees of the Conference when no member of the District is present at the session of Conference.

26. Who compose the District Missionary Committee? Who is Secretary? (Par. 389.)

27. What layman is elected to the Annual Conference Missionary Committee?

28. Who compose the District Committee on Finance?

29. What widows and children of ministers have claims on the Superannuation or Supernumerary Fund?
30. Can any measures be adopted for the promotion of the work of God in the District?
31. What is the report of the Audit Committee?
32. Where shall the next District Meeting be held?

Duties of Chairmen.

178. The duties of a Chairman are: 1. To take the oversight of the whole work on his District according to the Discipline, as far as his duty to the circuit on which he resides will permit.

2. To take charge of all the ministers, probationers for the ministry, local preachers, and exhorters in his District.

3. To change, receive, and suspend ministers or probationers for the ministry in his District in the intervals of Conference as the Discipline directs.

4. No minister or probationer for the ministry shall absent himself from his circuit without the leave of his Chairman; in any case, however, where a minister or probationer so absents himself, the Chairman shall fill his place, as far as possible, with another minister or probationer, who shall be paid for his labors out of the allowance of the absent minister or probationer in proportion to the usual allowance.

5. In case of the disability of a Superintendent of a circuit, or of a vacancy occurring in the office, the Chairman of the District shall have all the powers of the Superintendent until a successor be appointed or the disability be removed: and he may appoint any minister as

acting Superintendent, who shall be responsible for the administration of Discipline. In case of the death or disability of a District Statistical Secretary, Sunday School Secretary, Evangelism and Social Service Secretary, or Financial Secretary, he may appoint a successor.

6. To preside at the District Meetings.

7. To call for completed statistical returns at the Annual District Meeting.

8. To visit any station or circuit in his District when he may judge it expedient, and, so far as practicable, to visit the missions on his District at the first Quarterly Board Meeting for the year, to induce greater liberality in support of the missionaries, and, wherever possible, to lead the mission to a self-sustaining position.

9. To see that every part of the Discipline is duly enforced, and, within sixty days from the date of the appeal, to hear and determine appeals from the decisions of Superintendents of circuits or missions within the District on questions of law, notice of such appeal to be given within thirty days after notice of the decision appealed against.

10. Where the Chairman is interested in the appeal, either personally or because of having been concerned in any way in the trial appealed from, the appeal may be taken directly to the President of the Conference.

11. To give the President all necessary information of the state of his District.

12. To prepare a condensed report of the operations of the Missionary Society in his District, to be compiled from the reports of individual missionaries, as approved by the Annual District Meeting.

13. To ascertain and report to the Annual Conference, for publication in the Minutes, the names and addresses of ministers and widows who are claimants on the Superannuation Fund, and also the names and dates of birth of children of deceased ministers who are claimants on the Fund, together with any changes which have taken place in relation to these claimants by death, limitation of claim, marriage, non-membership, or other cause during the year, on their respective Districts.

14. The Chairman is especially directed and required to visit any circuit or mission in his District when requested to do so by the Superintendent, or by the Quarterly Official Board of such circuit or mission, in case of any dispute or difficulty requiring adjustment; also, in all cases of appeal. In all these cases the circuit or mission visited shall pay the travelling expenses of the Chairman. The Chairman shall have authority to call in any minister or probationer of his District to supply his place when absent in visiting any circuit or mission.

179. Should the Chairman, or the Superintendent of the circuit, or any of his colleagues, be requested to withdraw, on any occasion, from any of our regularly constituted meetings for business, he shall in no case do so; and should he be obliged to withdraw from any such meeting during its sittings, the meeting will be hereby dissolved. And if any Chairman or Superintendent of a circuit, or other minister, do willingly submit to any requisition, so as to withdraw from any

such meeting before its conclusion, on proof thereof, he shall receive due censure at the ensuing Annual Conference.

SECTION VI.

THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT MEETING.

180. A Financial District Meeting shall be held in each District, not later than the month of September in each year; the day and place to be determined by the Chairman. The Financial District Meeting shall be composed of all ministers on the District, all probationers in the active work, and an equal number of laymen elected by the Quarterly Boards of the circuits to which these ministers and probationers are attached. Where a circuit or mission has no minister or probationer, but only a supply, the Quarterly Official Board may elect a lay delegate who shall be a member of the Financial District Meeting.

181. The business of the Financial District Meeting shall be as follows:

1. To examine into the circumstances and probable income of the Home, Indian, Foreign or other Missions within the jurisdiction of the District, in the same way as they examine into those of the dependent circuits, and recommend the amount which, in their judgment, should be appropriated towards the support of such missions, which shall be immediately reported by the Chairman, upon schedules provided for the purpose—one schedule to be sent to the Mission Rooms, and

the other to the Secretary of the Annual Conference Standing Missionary Committee.

2. To appoint one minister and one layman to act with the Chairman in visiting missions and weak circuits.

3. To arrange the claims of the children of ministers on the District, and to receive from the Chairman of the District the amount to be raised by each circuit and mission for the Superannuation or Supernumerary Fund; also to take into account the circumstances of any circuit or mission which may be regarded as exceptional, and make provision for the relief of such exception, provided the District as a whole contributes the amount designated as its proportion.

4. To make arrangements for Missionary, Educational, and Evangelism and Social Service Anniversary Meetings, which arrangements shall be binding on all concerned.

5. To appoint a District Statistical Secretary, whose duty it shall be to tabulate all statistics for the ensuing Annual District Meeting and Conference. All circuit and other schedules shall be forwarded to him at least five days before the date of the Annual District Meeting. The Statistical Secretary shall fill out two sets of District schedules, one for the Journal Secretary and the other for the use of the Conference. He shall be, *ex officio*, a member of the District Auditing Committee and a member of the Conference Statistical Committee.

6. To appoint a District Epworth League Secretary where no District Epworth League exists.

7. To inquire into the state of religion in the Dis-

trict; to make arrangements for a convention of local preachers, class leaders and other lay agencies, and wherever practicable to arrange for a Sunday when the services shall be conducted by laymen.

8. To make arrangements wherever practicable for the holding of meetings of the District in the months of November and February, for the purpose of reviewing the whole work on the District. The said meetings to be constituted the same as the Annual District Meeting, the lay delegates to be appointed by the Quarterly Official Boards at the regular meetings in the months named.

The Financial Secretary.

182. 1. The Financial Secretary shall be the Treasurer of all Connexional Funds on the District, except the Missionary Fund, and shall pay to the Superintendents of circuits, or on their order, the sums appropriated to their circuits, which payments such Superintendents shall report to their respective Quarterly Official Boards.

2. The Financial Secretary shall, forthwith after each Financial District Meeting, furnish the Treasurers of the Superannuation or Supernumerary Fund with a complete statement of the amounts required from each circuit, as adopted by the Financial District Meeting.

3. It shall be the duty of the Financial Secretary of the District to obtain the returns mentioned above from those responsible for them, and to record them in a book kept for that purpose only, which book shall be in the custody of the Chairman of the District.

CHAPTER III.

CIRCUIT OFFICIAL MEETINGS.

SECTION I.

THE QUARTERLY OFFICIAL BOARD.

183. There shall be a Quarterly Official Board on each circuit, mission or station, as constituted and designated by the Annual Conference, consisting of the ministers and probationers for the ministry; the local preachers; the exhorters; the circuit stewards; the leader of each class, and one assistant leader of each class having a membership of twenty members or upwards; superintendents of Sunday schools, and associate superintendents being members of the Methodist Church; one representative from each board of trustees, he being a member of the church in the circuit to which the trustee board which he represents belongs, and his appointment to be annual; district visitors, of whom there shall be not more than twelve; and additional representatives who may have been appointed by the societies of the circuit, such representatives not to exceed in number the stewards on the circuit; and the following, they being members of the Methodist Church and approved by the Quarterly Official Board: the presidents of Epworth Leagues; presidents of Young Men's

Societies, presidents of Brotherhoods, and presidents of Young Women's Societies, whose objects and aims have been approved by the Quarterly Board; presidents of Woman's Missionary Auxiliaries; presidents of Ladies' Aid Societies; presidents of Adult Bible Classes; the leader of each catechumen class; and the chairman of the local Missionary Council or chairman of the Missionary Committee; also the Superintendent of each Deaconess Home, and each deaconess doing special work, shall be a member of the Quarterly Official Board where her membership is held, and each stationed deaconess shall be a member of the Quarterly Official Board where she is stationed. Only members over twenty-one years of age shall have the right to vote on questions involving financial liability.

184. The Superintendent of the circuit is the minister on each circuit and mission who is appointed from time to time to take charge of the societies therein. He is the Chairman of the Quarterly Official Board; but in case of his unavoidable absence from any regularly called meeting of the Board, the members present may elect a chairman. The Chairman of the District, when present, shall have the right to preside.

185. Believing that the essential contribution of Methodism to the Church of Christ has been its emphasis upon and its cultivation of experimental religion; and that the class-meetings or fellowship services, out of which the organization of the Methodist Church has grown, have ever been a most helpful agency in developing its spiritual experience and life; the Quarterly

Official Board is required to prayerfully co-operate with the minister in organizing the church so as to afford suitable opportunity for Christian fellowship and testimony, and thus prepare for a larger measure of effective service.

186. The regular business of the Quarterly Official Board shall be:

1. To receive the financial returns from the leaders, stewards and other persons entrusted with the funds of the circuit; to pay the salaries and all the expenses of the ministers and probationers for the ministry; to receive from the Leaders' Meeting the report of the disbursement of the fund for the poor for the quarter; and to receive the reports of the state of the Sunday Schools, Epworth Leagues, Young People's Societies, Woman's Missionary Auxiliaries, Ladies' Aid Societies, and the Committee on Evangelism and Social Service on the circuit.

2. To receive and try appeals.

3. At the *first, second or third* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, to recommend candidates for the ministry; *provided always* that no person shall be recommended as a candidate until he has been a local preacher at least six months.

4. Young men attending college who may wish to become local preachers may be received by the Quarterly Official Boards of their circuits as candidates, after due examination, provided they present certificates of moral and religious character from the Dean of the Faculty of the College.

5. At the *first* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board:

(a) To take into consideration the recommendations of the preceding Annual Conference;

(b) To review the work of God on the circuit, and to plan and prepare for the most effective service to the community;

(c) To appoint a committee or committees to bring the foregoing into effect;

(d) To receive the recommendation of the Stewards' Meeting and make an estimate of the amounts necessary for the family or families of the ministers or probationers for the ministry for the ensuing year;

(e) To elect lay delegates to the Financial District Meeting.

6. At the *second* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board:

(a) To receive reports from the committees appointed at the first meeting of the Board;

(b) To appoint the Committee on Evangelism and Social Service, which shall consist of five persons, carefully selected, which shall arrange for and plan the evangelistic programme for the year, including personal and continuous evangelism, and a careful and individual survey of the spiritual life and resources of the congregation, and shall report to each regular meeting, or at a special meeting, of the Board called for the purpose. (See also Par. 348. sec. 4.)

(c) To elect delegates to the second District Meeting.

7. At the *third* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board:

(a) To receive the audited statement of Board of Trustees, referred to in sections 11 and 23 of the Model Deed;

(b) To determine the number of Stewards for the ensuing year;

(c) To take into consideration the advisability of holding a meeting of the congregation for the purpose of receiving reports from and considering the various departments of the work;

(d) To elect delegates to the third District Meeting;

(e) To examine into the character of the local preachers and exhorters, inquiring concerning each as follows: Is there any objection to his moral or religious character? Is there any objection to his doctrinal views and teachings? Has he duly observed our Discipline? Is he punctual in attending all his appointments? Has he the competent abilities for a local preacher or exhorter?

(f) Where there is no Leaders' Meeting, to examine into the character of all the leaders, their punctuality in beginning their class meetings and closing them in proper time, and whatever relates to their office; also to appoint a leader for each class. The Superintendent shall nominate one or more persons for the office of leader and the election shall be by ballot.

8. At the *fourth* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board:

(a) To receive from the Superintendent of the circuit the report of the number, names and addresses of

the members on the circuit, and where there is no Leaders' Meeting, to revise the same;

(b) To receive the report of the Sunday Schools, Epworth Leagues and other Young People's Societies;

(c) To receive the report of amounts raised for the various connexional funds;

(d) To take into consideration the vacation of the pastor or pastors;

(e) To elect by ballot, on open nomination, without debate, the lay delegates to attend the Annual District Meeting, in the proportion of one delegate for each minister in the active work and for each probationer in the active work on the circuit, and for each foreign missionary connected with that circuit, who may be home on furlough. If there be no minister or probationer on the circuit or mission, but only a supply, to elect one lay delegate as above. An alternate delegate also shall be elected in the same manner as the regular delegate;

(f) To elect, by open nomination and ballot, the stewards of the circuit, of whom there shall be not less than three nor more than seven: provided always that churches having more than four hundred members may elect one additional steward for every additional hundred members or a fractional part thereof when such part amounts to more than one-half, and circuits having more than seven appointments may elect one steward for each additional appointment. Two or more of the stewards shall be nominated for Recording Steward by the Superintendent of the circuit, and the Board shall elect by ballot. The Recording Steward shall keep a

record of the proceedings of the Quarterly Official Board in a book procured for the purpose;

(g) To arrange the apportionment, scale and date of nomination and election of the representatives of the societies of the circuit, who must be members of the church, and which election shall be held as soon as possible after the meeting of the Board;

(h) To enquire whether the parsonage is in a comfortable and sanitary condition.

(i) To elect the District Visitors, by open vote of the Official Board, on the nomination of the Superintendent of the circuit.

(j) To elect not less than three, and not more than five representatives to each Sunday School Board of Management on the circuit.

(k) To elect a Missionary Committee.

9. Special meetings of the Quarterly Official Board may be convened by the Superintendent. On the request of five members of the Board he shall convene any such meeting. Only the business named in the notice to the members of the Board shall be transacted at any such special meeting.

10. A special meeting of the Quarterly Official Board to appoint representatives to appear before the Stationing Committee may be called, for this purpose only, by the Superintendent, or by two other members of the Board. All members must be notified, and a majority must be present. The representatives must present written authorization of their appointment to the Stationing Committee.

11. The Quarterly Official Board may make arrangements or agreements with the Board of Trustees, not inconsistent with the Discipline of the Church, or with the trusts upon which the trust property is held, for the administration or disposal of any of the Church funds which are under the control of said Boards or either of them.

Duties of Superintendents.

187. The duties of a Superintendent are :

1. To take the oversight of all the ministers and probationers for the ministry on his circuit or mission, and of the work of the Missionary Committee or Local Missionary Council.

2. To give to each member of the church a yearly card of membership, except where the Quarterly Board, by resolution, expresses its desire for the quarterly ticket, in which case it shall be at liberty to arrange for the same (this card of membership shall not be valid as a certificate of removal) ; and to give an annual ticket to all catechumen members of the church.

3. To see that all public collections in aid of the circuit, or of the connexional funds, are regularly made in each congregation of the circuit, and also to see that all the circuit schedules are correctly filled up and forwarded to the District Statistical Secretary at least five days before the date of the District Meeting.

4. To hold meetings of the Quarterly Official Board ; to preside at all official meetings of the circuit, and to make all nominations to office not otherwise provided for. To receive, try, and expel members, according to

Discipline, and to give due notice to the Chairman of the District in all cases of appeal. To execute all our rules fully and strenuously against all frauds, and particularly against dishonest insolvencies, suffering none to remain in the Church on any account who are found guilty of any fraud. To explain and enforce vigorously, but calmly, the General Rules of the Church, in harmony with Paragraph 35 of the Discipline.

5. To meet the stewards and leaders regularly, and examine the accounts of all the stewards. To provide for the appointment of all the leaders and assistant leaders; and where a change of leader (or assistant) is deemed necessary, to see that such change is made, but not contrary to the wish of the class, nor without the approval of the Leaders' Meeting or of the Quarterly Official Board. To make strict inquiry in the Leaders' Meeting preceding the *third* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, or where there is no such meeting, in the *third* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, into the moral character of all the leaders. To issue licenses to such persons as he may think fit and proper to officiate as exhorters, provided they have passed the necessary examination (as hereinafter provided) and have been approved by the Local Preachers' Meeting, or, where no such meeting is held, by the Quarterly Official Board, of the circuit in which the persons proposed reside. To make a plan of appointments for the ministers, the probationers for the ministry, local preachers, and exhorters on the circuit, with the counsel of the Local Preachers' Meeting, or of the Quarterly Official Board where there is no Local Preachers' Meeting. To invite and earnestly

urge the attendance and assistance of the lay representatives at the District Meetings, according to rule.

6. To hold Watch-night services and Love-feasts; but no Love-feast shall last longer than an hour and a half. To appoint prayer meetings wherever he can on his circuit. To see that the General Rules are read once a year in every congregation, and occasionally in each society, by himself or his colleague; and that the Pastoral Address of the Annual Conference is read to all the societies on his circuit. To urge upon all who are admitted into our Church to read attentively our General Rules, the Catechism, and other Methodist works.

7. In consultation with the leaders, to revise the membership roll carefully each year, and report the same to the *fourth* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board and to the Annual District Meeting, with the number of members who have been received on probation, or by certificate of membership, and of those who have removed, died or ceased to be members, or have been separated from, or added to, the circuit by alteration of its boundaries; also to prepare the report of the Sunday Schools, the Epworth Leagues, and Young Men's Societies of his circuit; also to report the number of vacancies, if any, in the Trustee Boards; and, if a Superintendent of a mission, to prepare a report of the religious state of his mission, and read it in the Annual District Meeting, subject to the revision of that meeting.

8. To leave for his successor a circuit book containing an exact list of all the official members, and also of the names and addresses of all the members in his

circuit, arranged in their classes, as found at the *fourth* meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, and also a list of adherents.

9. To record the names of non-resident members of the church in a separate list in the circuit register, and report them in a separate line in the circuit schedule, but include them in the total membership of the church.

10. To keep a register of baptisms, marriages, and burials in a book provided for the purpose by the Official Board, such register to be the property of the circuit, and to remain among its records. In any Province where a circuit register is kept under provincial law it shall be accepted as a compliance with this requirement. Nothing herein contained shall deprive the member of the right of trial and appeal.

11. To remind members from time to time that none are to remove from one circuit to another without a certificate of membership from the Superintendent of the circuit, and to warn them that without such certificate they will not be received into the church in other places; and also to forward a duplicate of such certificate by mail to the Superintendent of the circuit to which they may be removing. In all cases persons applying for membership on certificate shall be held responsible to the church with which they unite from the date of the certificate, but no certificate shall be esteemed valid that is not presented within one year from the date of it.

12. To make application in the classes and to our friends on behalf of the Superannuation Fund, during

the months of November and December, and to make a public collection for the same object in the month of November or December, paying the moneys thus received to the Financial Secretary in time for transmission to the Treasurers of the Superannuation Fund on or before the first day of January.

13. To see that proper arrangements are made to appeal to the congregations, at such times and by such methods as he and the Official Board may consider most advantageous, on behalf of our connexional funds. The Missionary, Educational, and Evangelism and Social Service Funds, however, always shall be considered special, and shall be taken on days distinct from the days upon which other connexional funds are appealed for.

14. To carry out the arrangement made by the Financial District Meeting in regard to the Missionary, Educational, and Evangelism and Social Service work on his circuit. To urge that the whole of the loose plate collections at all the services on the days appointed for the Missionary, Educational, and Evangelism and Social Service Funds be devoted to those funds. To see that all moneys collected for the several connexional funds are properly paid to the appointed treasurers. (See Par. 359.)

15. To encourage in all proper cases Field Meetings and Open-air Meetings on his charge, and also Camp Meetings, as his circuit or a union of circuits may, through their Quarterly Official Boards, determine; and to enforce the proper observance of the Sabbath at such meetings.

16. To forward the Sunday-school schedule of the circuit to the Sunday-school Secretary of the District immediately after the fourth Quarterly Meeting.

17. (a) To see that the title to the property under his care is sufficiently recorded under the land registry system in vogue in his Province;

(b) To see that such property is sufficiently insured;

(c) To keep a record of the assets under his care as above, with particulars of the indebtedness against any, and the insurance;

(d) To make returns of such information to the Annual District Meeting. In case no such superintendency exists, the above duties shall devolve upon the Chairman of the District.

18. The authority of a Superintendent who is removing to administer discipline upon a circuit shall cease with the final reading of the stations to the Conference.

SECTION II.

EXHORTERS AND LOCAL PREACHERS.

The Local Preachers' Meeting.

188. A Local Preachers' Meeting is composed of the local preachers and exhorters on the circuit, provided there are six local preachers of three years' continuous standing on the circuit.

189. The Superintendent of the circuit shall regularly meet the local preachers and exhorters once a quarter; and no person shall be licensed as a local

preacher or exhorter, or be permitted to preach among us as such, without the approval of that meeting upon the nomination of the Superintendent; or, if in any circuit a Local Preachers' Meeting cannot be held, all candidates for the office of local preacher or exhorter shall be proposed in and appointed by the Quarterly Official Board of the circuit; but no minister or probationer for the ministry who has been suspended or expelled by the Conference shall be employed, on any account, as a local preacher without the consent of the Annual Conference.

Examination of Local Preachers and Exhorters.

190. The Superintendent of the circuit, at each regular Local Preachers' Meeting, or at the third meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, shall inquire into the religious and moral character, doctrinal beliefs, ability to preach, and punctuality in attending appointments, of each local preacher and exhorter by name.

191. The questions proposed in the examination of the character of local preachers and exhorters shall be the same as those proposed in regard to ministers, viz.: (1) Is there any objection to his moral or religious character? (2) Is there any objection to his doctrinal views and teachings? (3) Has he duly observed our Discipline? (4) Is he punctual in attending all his appointments? (5) Has he competent abilities for a local preacher or exhorter?

192. Every person proposed to be received as a local preacher shall be asked by the Chairman or Superintendent the following questions, to which a distinct answer shall be required:

What is your religious experience? Have you faith in Christ? Are you going on to perfection? Do you expect to be perfected in love in this life? Are you earnestly striving after it? Are you resolved to devote yourself to God and His work? Do you sincerely and fully believe the doctrines of Methodism, as contained in the Articles of Religion, and as taught by Mr. Wesley in his Notes on the New Testament and volumes of Sermons, especially the following leading ones: A Trinity of Persons in the Unity of the Godhead; the total depravity of all men by nature in consequence of Adam's fall; the Atonement made by Christ for the sins of all the human race; Justification by Faith; the Direct Witness of the Spirit; the possibility of falling from a state of justification and holiness, and perishing everlastingly; the absolute necessity of holiness both in heart and life; and the proper eternity of rewards and punishments? What is Evangelical Repentance? What is Justification? What is Justifying Faith? What is the Direct Witness of the Spirit? What is the Indirect Witness of the Spirit? What is Christian Perfection? What is the difference between Justification and Regeneration? What is the difference between Justification and Sanctification?

Will you endeavor fully and faithfully to preach these doctrines?

Regulations in reference to Local Preachers.

193. 1. All local preachers shall meet in class. No exception shall be made in respect of any who may have been ministers or probationers for the ministry in former years.

2. A license shall be issued by the Superintendent of the circuit to an exhorter who has passed a written examination on the prescribed course of study for exhorters, and given satisfactory evidence that he has qualifications for the work.

3. Candidates for the office of local preacher shall pass a written examination upon the prescribed course of study for local preachers, when a license shall be issued. Candidates must be exhorters for not less than six months before writing on this examination.

4. (a) The Board of Examiners of each Annual Conference is empowered to prepare the course of study for exhorters and local preachers, and to conduct examinations therein.

(b) The Examining Board of each Annual Conference shall be allowed to accept as equivalents any of the subjects already written upon by candidates in the course for local preachers previously provided by their own Conferences.

5. The period of probation for the office of local preacher shall be twelve months, during which time at least four sermons shall be preached, and the Superintendent of the circuit shall report to the licensing body upon the candidate's ability to preach.

6. The name of every local preacher shall be recorded in the journal of the Quarterly Official Board of the circuit in which he resides.

7. No local preacher shall hold Love-feasts without the consent of the Superintendent of the circuit, nor shall he in any wise interfere with his ministerial duties.

8. Ministers who withdraw from connection with an Annual Conference, and ministers who are located by the action of an Annual Conference, should they desire it, may be considered local preachers. They shall be subject to all the regulations affecting local preachers; and, if charged with immorality, shall be proceeded against as in the case of other local preachers, and the Superintendent of the circuit or mission shall report the case to the Annual District Meeting.

9. Local preachers who received ordination in any of the uniting bodies, and were in good standing at the time of the Union of 1883, shall retain all rights and privileges conferred by such ordination.

10. When an ordained local preacher is expelled the President of the Annual Conference shall require of him the credentials of his ordination to be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference within the limits of which the expulsion has taken place. And should he at any future time produce to the Annual Conference a certificate of his restoration, signed by the Chairman and countersigned by the Secretary of the District Meeting, his credentials shall be restored to him.

11. When a local preacher or exhorter removes from one circuit to another, he shall obtain from the Super-

intendent of the circuit a certificate of his official standing in the church at the time of his removal, without which he shall not be received as a local preacher or exhorter in other places.

12. No local preacher or exhorter coming to reside in any of our circuits from another part of the world, although duly recommended, shall be allowed to preach or hold meetings in our churches unless he become a member of the Church and submit to its Discipline.

13. Should any local preacher or exhorter belonging to any other Methodist Church make application to be received into our Church, the Superintendent of the circuit, in concurrence with the Quarterly Official Board, or the Local Preachers' Meeting of the circuit in which such local preacher or exhorter may reside, is authorized to receive him, after having inquired into his qualifications and all the circumstances of his case.

14. Any local preacher may be admitted to examination on the theological subjects of the Conference Preliminary Examination, and to the examination on all the subjects of the Ordinary Course of Study for probationers for the ministry for the three years on circuit, Greek being optional. On the completion of the course a certificate to that effect shall be granted, and should such local preacher become a probationer for the ministry, such examination shall be credited to him on the course for probationers on circuit.

15. A local preacher's license shall be renewed from year to year provided the usual Disciplinary questions are satisfactorily answered.

16. The services of local preachers shall be utilized on the circuits and missions adjoining large towns and cities, under the Superintendent of the circuit or mission in which these appointments are included; and, similarly, on appointments belonging to rural circuits or missions.

17. A preachers' plan shall be prepared by the Superintendent of the circuit, so as to serve all the appointments and engage the services of the exhorters and local preachers. Superintendents of circuits should occasionally vacate their own pulpits in favor of local preachers.

18. A Local Preachers' Brotherhood may be formed for the whole Church, with a branch for each Conference and for each District, with suitable officers, all working together under a general constitution. Exhorters may become associate members.

19. A suitable printed form of local preacher's license shall be provided by the Conference, duly signed by the President of the Conference, the Chairman of the District, and the Superintendent of the circuit, and shall be presented to every local preacher by the Chairman of the District, when the candidate shall have passed the examination for local preachers and fulfilled the other Disciplinary requirements.

20. A public service shall be held, under the direction of the Chairman of the District or the Superintendent of the circuit, for the purpose of setting apart the local preacher in his sacred office and the granting of his license.

SECTION III.

'THE LEADERS' MEETING.

194. The Leaders' Meeting shall be composed of the ministers and probationers for the ministry appointed to the circuit, the Stewards of the circuit, the Leaders and Assistant Leaders, and the District Visitors.

195. A Leaders' Meeting shall be held at least once a quarter, and oftener, if necessary, to inquire: (a) Are there any sick? (b) Are there any requiring temporal relief? (c) Are there any that walk disorderly and will not be reprov'd? (d) Are there any who wilfully neglect the means of grace? (e) Are there any changes to be made in the classes? (f) Are there any members on probation to be received into full membership? (g) Are there any to be received into Church membership? (h) Is there any miscellaneous business?

196. Each District Visitor shall make a full report of his work during the quarter, and of the condition of his district, at the Leaders' Meeting preceding the Sabbath on which the sacrament of the Lord's Supper is to be dispensed.

197. A return shall be made by the Leaders' Meeting to the Quarterly Official Board of the amount contributed to the fund for the poor, and the disbursements for the quarter.

198. The Superintendent of the circuit shall make strict inquiry in the Leaders' Meeting preceding the third meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, into the moral character of the Leaders and Assistant Leaders,

their punctuality in beginning their class meetings and closing them in proper time, and whatever relates to their office; and if there be no objections alleged and sustained they shall continue in office for the year. At the same meeting the membership roll shall be carefully revised, but nothing herein contained shall deprive members of the right of trial and appeal. Where a Leaders' Meeting is not held its duties shall be performed by the Quarterly Official Board.

SECTION IV.

THE STEWARDS' MEETING.

199. The Stewards' Meeting shall be composed of the Superintendent of the circuit, or his colleague, and the stewards of the circuit. The Superintendent of the circuit shall preside, but in case of his absence the stewards shall elect a chairman from among those present.

200. The stewards should be men of solid piety, who both know and love the Methodist doctrine and Discipline, and who possess good natural and acquired abilities to transact the temporal business of the circuit.

201. The duties of stewards are: (*a*) To estimate the amount necessary to meet the expenses of the year, and report to the first meeting of the Quarterly Official Board; (*b*) to meet at least once a quarter, previous to the meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, to take an exact account of what has been collected for the sup-

port of the ministers or probationers for the ministry on the circuit, and to recommend to the Quarterly Official Board such measures as they may think necessary in order to the prompt payment of the ministers; (c) to make an accurate return of every expenditure of money, whether to the ministers and probationers, the sick or the poor, and to publish yearly an audited financial statement, under direction of the Quarterly Official Board; (d) to seek the needy and distressed, in order to relieve and comfort them; (e) to inform the minister of any sick or disabled persons; (f) to attend the meetings of the Quarterly Official Board of their circuits; (g) to give advice, if asked, in planning the circuit; (h) to provide the elements for the Lord's Supper; (i) to write circular letters to the societies in the circuit to be more liberal, if need be; and to let them know, when occasion requires, at the last meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, the state of the temporal concerns of the circuit; (j) to fill correctly the Circuit Schedules; and to be subject to the President, the Chairman of the District, and the ministers on their circuit; (k) to audit the books and accounts of Trustees, in accordance with Section 11 of the Model Deed.

202. The stewards shall be accountable to the Quarterly Official Board of the circuit for the faithful performance of their duties.

203. In case of the death or disability of a steward, or of a Society representative, the ensuing meeting of the Quarterly Official Board may fill up the vacancy.

204. 1. The duties of the Recording Steward are:

(a) To keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Quarterly Official Board; (b) to fill correctly the circuit schedules and the schedules of the Sunday schools of the circuit for presentation to the Annual District Meeting; (c) to act as Treasurer of the Quarterly Official Board, unless the Board elects some other person to that office.

2. When a recording steward of a circuit or mission becomes incapacitated for the duties of his office, the Superintendent of the circuit shall have authority to appoint another of the stewards to that office until the next meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, when his place shall be supplied according to Discipline.

Part III.

ADMINISTRATION OF DISCIPLINE.

ADMINISTRATION OF DISCIPLINE

CHAPTER I.

TRIALS AND APPEALS.

SECTION I.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

205. All our Church Courts shall be presided over by a duly qualified minister of the Methodist Church.

206. If the Superintendent of a circuit be the accuser, or a material witness, or be otherwise disqualified, the Chairman of the District shall preside in his place. If the Chairman of the District be disqualified, the President of the Annual Conference shall preside. If the President of the Conference be disqualified, the senior qualified Chairman in the Conference (that is, senior in the ministry of the Church) shall preside. Where two or more qualified Chairmen of Districts are apparently of the same status, in case they do not agree, the General Superintendent, on application of either party, shall decide which Chairman shall preside. A Chairman or a President, not disqualified, may appoint a duly qualified substitute, who shall be officially of at

least equal status with the officer whose duty it would have been in the first place to preside.

207. If any minister, probationer or member of the Church has knowledge or reliable information of an offence by a minister, probationer or member against the law of God or the rules or Discipline of the Church, it shall be his duty to lay a charge before the proper authority. No other person can institute charges. All charges shall be in writing.

208. If the offence be such as does not seem to require a trial in the first instance, let the officer whose duty it would be to preside at the trial admonish or reprove the accused, and if there be contrition and promise of amendment, let him be borne with; if there be no contrition or promise of amendment, or if the offence be repeated, let a trial be had.

209. A copy of the charges and distinct specifications, with a notice in writing of the time and place of trial, shall be given to the accused and the complainant at least fourteen days before the day fixed for the trial by the officer who is to preside. When these are sent by mail they must be posted at least twenty-one days before the day fixed for trial.

210. Notices may be given personally, or left with a grown-up person at the residence of a party, or sent by registered letter.

211. A Committee of Trial shall consist of five qualified persons. Three shall form a quorum, and three at least must agree to effect a decision. The

officer who is to preside at the trial shall summon the persons who are to compose the Committee. Unless excused by such officer, the members of the Committee shall be required to act. Persons preferring or promoting charges, or being material witnesses, shall not be qualified to act as members of the Committee.

212. No peremptory challenges of members of the committee shall be allowed, but either party may challenge for cause. The presiding officer shall decide upon all challenges.

213. The parties may appear and conduct a trial or an appeal, either personally or by a representative who is a member of the Church in good standing; but such representative shall not be a professional counsel.

214. If an accused person or a complainant do not appear after proof of due notice, the trial may proceed and a decision be rendered in his absence; provided, however, that in any such case the officer who presided at the trial may set aside the decision and hold a new trial, on application by any party absent as aforesaid, upon being satisfied that such party had not received actual notice of the trial, and that the application is made within ten days after knowledge by such party of the decision complained of.

215. The presiding officer shall cause a record to be kept of the charges, proceedings, evidence and decision.

216. In an appeal or charge against any minister, probationer or member, either party shall be entitled to be furnished with certified copies of the charges, proceedings, evidence and decision, or extracts there-

from, as he may require, on applying to the officer having custody of same, and by paying a reasonable fee therefor. Certified copies of such charges, proceedings, evidence and decision, or of extracts therefrom, shall be received as evidence in any case or proceeding as of the same value as the originals would be.

217. The Committee shall receive any evidence or information pertinent to the case that may be available, and that in their judgment may aid in doing justice between the parties. The testimony of non-members may be received.

218. Any of the above evidence may be taken by a commission for the taking of evidence, which may be issued by the presiding officer at the trial, which evidence shall be forwarded to the court having jurisdiction in the case. The Commissioner, in executing the commission, shall follow the rules of evidence. Each party to the case shall have notice of the time and place of executing the commission, and be given the opportunity of attending with his witnesses before such Commissioner, and of cross-examining the witnesses of the other party.

219. The presiding officer shall decide as to the admissibility of evidence, and as to law and procedure.

220. Charges may be amended or added to in writing at any time if the Committee consider the same to be in the interest of justice, provided the accused be allowed such opportunity as the Committee think reasonable to meet such amended or new charges.

221. The Committee may make, from time to time, any adjournments it may deem necessary for the better hearing and trial of matters before it. The findings on each specification shall be recorded in detail.

222. In all cases of trial the presiding officer shall refrain from delivering any charge to the Committee or from interfering in any way with their deliberations, and he shall not be present with them while they are deliberating on their decision.

223. If the Committee do not agree upon a decision within a reasonable time, the presiding officer may summon another committee and proceed as if no trial had taken place.

224. Before accepting the decision of the Committee, it shall be the duty of the presiding officer to require that the findings and sentence of the Committee shall correspond, and be in accordance with the Discipline.

225. A copy of the decision, certified by the presiding officer, shall be served upon each party within six days after the rendering of the decision in the manner herein above provided for notices.

226. If a member of the Church be found guilty and the offence be such as is expressly forbidden by the Word of God, and sufficient to exclude a person from the Kingdom of Grace and Glory, which shall be deemed a major offence, he shall be expelled from the Church or suspended for one year as the Committee of Trial may determine. In the case of a minor offence he shall be suspended, reprimanded or admonished as the Committee may determine.

227. In the case of a minister (other than the General Superintendent), or of a probationer, if found guilty of a major offence he shall be suspended from the ministry and membership of the Church until the ensuing Annual Conference in its Ministerial Session shall finally dispose of the case. If convicted of a minor offence he shall be suspended, reprimanded or admonished as the Committee may determine.

(a) Whether an alleged offence be major or minor shall be a question of law, and previous to the admission of evidence the presiding officer shall rule on the character of the alleged offence. Should the evidence warrant it, the presiding officer, with the approval of the Committee, may change his ruling at any time before the penalty is pronounced, provided the accused be allowed such further opportunity to make his defence as the Committee may consider reasonable. Against the ruling of the presiding officer an appeal may be taken directly to the Court of Appeal, but if only an amended ruling be given the appeal shall lie only against the latter decision.

(b) If the accused be found guilty of a minor offence the sentence shall be deferred until expiry of the time allowed for notice of appeal (which in cases of this class shall be fifteen days), and, if appeal be taken, until the appeal has been disposed of.

228. A presiding officer shall not be subject to a charge of maladministration for rulings or decisions given in the necessary discharge of his duty; but this shall not exempt him from a charge for negligence,

partiality, or disregard of his official duties in the conduct of a trial.

229. When a charge is preferred, the officer before whom it is laid may refuse to entertain it, if in his judgment the charge is frivolous; the complainant may then appeal as in cases of appeal from decisions of presiding officers.

230. Any decision shall have effect throughout the whole Church. Any minister or probationer who is suspended shall not be permitted to exercise any ministerial functions during the term of his suspension.

SECTION II.

APPEALS.

231. Either party may appeal from a decision or ruling by the presiding officer, or from the decision of a committee. Appeals on questions of law shall be as follows:—

1. By any member to the Chairman of a District from any decision of a Superintendent of a circuit or mission within the District.

2. To the President of an Annual Conference from any decision of a Chairman of a District within the Conference.

3. To the Court of Appeal from any decision or ruling referred to in Par. 116, Sub-par. 3.

232. Notice of intention to appeal from a decision or ruling of the presiding officer at a trial, or from the

decision of a committee, must be given to such presiding officer, to the respondent, and to the presiding officer of the court appealed to, with grounds of appeal, within sixty days from the time of service of notice of the decision complained of, except in the case of minor offences, of which notice of intention to appeal must be given within fifteen days. The presiding officer of the court appealed to shall cause the appeal to be heard and disposed of as speedily as possible after receiving such notice of appeal, with proof of service thereof upon the above-mentioned parties. In all other cases notice of appeal from any decision or ruling upon a question of law shall be given to the presiding officer of the Conference Board or Committee, or the person whose decision or ruling is complained of, and to the presiding officer of the court or to the person appealed to, with grounds of appeal, within thirty days from the time of service of notice of the decision complained of.

233. The conviction of a minister or probationer for a minor offence shall come before the Ministerial Session of the Annual Conference only when appealed against.

234. If an appeal be taken on any question of law to one court, and another appeal on any question of fact to another court, the hearing of the latter appeal shall be postponed until the former appeal shall have been disposed of.

235. The presiding officer at a trial, the members of the Committee of Trial, the complainant and the defendant shall not vote on a case of appeal, but they

shall have the right to speak if they are members of the court.

236. If the complainant do not proceed either before the committee or on appeal, any other qualified person may be admitted to do so.

237. In appeal, the evidence taken before the lower court or committee alone shall be received. If further important evidence is available, a new trial may be ordered, or the case referred back to the committee.

238. The Appellate Court may confirm, reverse, alter or amend the decisions appealed from, or may order a new trial or a reference back to the committee. The judgment of the Appellate Court takes effect without any action of the court from which the appeal was taken.

239. No other authority than the proper Church Appellate Court or Courts shall in any way review or interfere with the action of the lower court or committee.

SECTION III.

TRIAL OF MINISTERS AND PROBATIONERS FOR THE MINISTRY.

General Superintendent.

240. The General Superintendent is amenable for his conduct to the General Conference, which has power to reprove, suspend or expel him for improper conduct, as may be deemed necessary.

1. If a charge be laid against the General Superintendent, the President of the Annual Conference to which he belongs, or within which the offence is alleged to have been committed, shall preside at the trial.

2. The committee shall be composed of qualified Chairmen of Districts, but if a sufficient number are not available, Superintendents of circuits shall be selected to complete the committee. If the accused be found guilty, he may be suspended or dealt with as the circumstances may require.

3. Either party may appeal to the General Conference Special Committee. If there be no appeal, the decision of the Committee of Trial shall be in force until the next General Conference. If there be an appeal, the decision of the General Conference Special Committee shall be in force until the next General Conference.

President of a Conference.

241. 1. If a charge be laid against the President of an Annual Conference, the senior qualified Chairman of a District within his Conference, or the President of the Annual Conference within which the offence is alleged to have been committed, shall preside at the trial.

2. The committee shall be composed of Chairmen of Districts; and in the event of a sufficient number of them not being qualified and available, shall be completed with Superintendents of circuits.

Chairman of a District.

242. If a charge be laid against the Chairman of a District, the President of the Annual Conference to

which he belongs, or within which the offence is alleged to have been committed, shall preside. The Committee shall be composed as in the case of the President of an Annual Conference.

Professor, Lecturer or Teacher.

243. Whenever a specific complaint is made in writing and signed by five members or ministers of the Methodist Church, charging a professor, lecturer, or teacher in any college, school, or other connexional educational institution with teaching or preaching, or with disseminating views or teachings contrary to or inconsistent with the Standards of Doctrine or Articles of Religion of the Methodist Church, to the governing persons, boards, presidents or any chief officer of such college, school or institution of which the person charged is a professor, lecturer or teacher, the said governing persons or board of such college, school or institution shall be called together immediately, and such complaint or charge shall be laid before them or it; and the said governing persons or board shall at once consider said complaint or complaints, and if in their or its judgment the said complaint or complaints is or are of a serious character, the said governing persons or board shall forthwith transmit the said complaint or complaints to the Board of Education for action thereon as hereinafter provided. In case the complaint is considered not of a serious character, as in this clause provided, the said governing persons or board may refuse to entertain it, in which case the complainants may appeal to the Court

of Appeal, as in the case of appeal from decisions of presiding officers; and in case the Court of Appeal is of the opinion that the complaint is of a serious character, the said governing persons or board shall forthwith forward it to the Board of Education as in this clause provided.

244. The Board of Education, upon receiving any complaint or complaints from any College Board, or from any five members of the Methodist Church in good standing who have laid a complaint to the College Board, and no action having been taken within sixty days under the provisions of the foregoing paragraph, shall select five persons, being ministers of good repute for their knowledge of questions of doctrine, who shall constitute the Committee of Trial in the case. The presiding officer shall be the General Superintendent, who shall have all the powers and duties belonging to said officer. All the principles and procedure relating to trials, as set forth in the Discipline, shall be followed, *mutatis mutandis*.

245. If the person against whom the complaint is made be a minister or probationer for the ministry of the Methodist Church, either the complainants or the person complained against may appeal from the decision given in respect of such complaint to the next ensuing session of the Annual Conference to which the minister or probationer belongs; that is to say, to the ministerial members thereof in special session.

246. The Committee of Trial shall forward a copy of the decision to the complainant, to the party com-

plained against, and to the College Board of which the party complained against is a professor, lecturer or teacher.

Other Ministers or Probationers.

247. 1. If a charge be laid against any other minister or a probationer for the ministry, the Chairman of the District to which he belongs, or within which the offence is alleged to have been committed, shall preside. The committee shall be composed of ministers.

2. In any case in which an offence is charged to have been committed in an Annual Conference other than that to which the accused belongs, and jurisdiction to try the charge is claimed in more than one Conference, the General Superintendent, upon application by either party, after such notice to the other party as the General Superintendent may deem sufficient, shall determine in which Conference the trial shall be held.

3. In any case in which an offence is charged to have been committed in a District other than that to which the accused belongs, but within his Annual Conference, and jurisdiction to try the charge is claimed in more than one District, the President of the Annual Conference, upon application by either party, after such notice to the other party as the President may deem sufficient, shall determine in which District the trial shall be held.

248. In the case of the trial of a minister (other than the General Superintendent), or of a probationer, the whole of the evidence and papers shall be laid before

the next ensuing Annual District Meeting to which he belongs, and, provided the charges are sustained, subsequently forwarded to the Annual Conference. If the decision be rendered between the holding of the Annual District Meeting and the Conference, the documents shall be forwarded directly to the Annual Conference for information.

Appeals.

249. Either the accuser or the accused may appeal from the decision of the Committee to the next ensuing Annual Conference to which the latter belongs; that is to say, to the ministerial members thereof in special session. The decision of the latter shall be final, subject only to appeal to the Court of Appeal.

Arbitration, Inquiry, etc.

250. In case of a dispute or difficulty between ministers and probationers, or between ministers or probationers and members, relative to secular business, the payment of debts, or matters not otherwise provided for, the officer whose duty it would be to preside at the trial if a charge were laid shall inquire into the circumstances of the case, and may recommend an arbitration, over which he shall preside, or that a charge be laid, or that it be settled by process of law. If an arbitration be recommended, each party shall choose an arbitrator (who must be a minister or member of our Church), and these two shall choose a third. Two may make an award. An appeal shall lie to the Annual District Meet-

ing from a decision refusing to recommend an arbitration, or from an award. If either party should refuse to arbitrate when recommended, or to be bound by the award, or the decision in appeal, let a charge be laid and a trial had.

251. If a minister or probationer shall have contracted debts which he is not able to pay, let the Chairman of the District appoint a Committee of Inquiry, composed of three ministers; and if in their opinion he has acted dishonestly, or contracted debts without a probability of paying them, let their report be considered as a charge, and let a trial be had thereon.

252. If a minister or probationer engages in any secular business or work that may detract from his ministerial character or usefulness, or interfere with the proper discharge of the duties assigned him by the Church, let him be admonished by his senior in office, and if he persist, let a charge be laid and a trial had. Selling our own books is not subject to this provision. Ministers and probationers are strongly recommended not to become members of the secular boards of any trading company or any corporate body organized for the purpose of trade, or for the investment of other than Church funds.

253. When a minister or probationer holds and disseminates, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion and doctrinal standards, let a charge be laid and a trial had.

SECTION IV.

TRIAL OF MEMBERS.

254. 1. If a charge be laid against a local preacher or exhorter, the Superintendent of the circuit shall preside at the trial. The committee shall be composed of local preachers or other official members within the District.

2. If a charge be laid against any other member of the church the Superintendent of the circuit shall preside. The Committee shall be composed of members within the District. It is recommended that, except for special reasons, members of the Quarterly Official Board of the circuit be not on the Committee.

Appeal in the Case of Members.

255. In the case of the trial of a local preacher, exhorter, or any other member, an appeal shall lie either to the Quarterly Official Board or to the Annual or Financial District Meeting when the laymen are present. If the appeal be to the Quarterly Official Board, and the decision be there confirmed, there shall be no further appeal. If the decision of the Committee be there reversed the respondent may appeal to the Annual or Financial District Meeting, and its decision shall be final, subject only to appeal on questions of law.

256. In case of a dispute or difficulty between members relative to secular business, the payment of debts, or matters not otherwise provided for, the officer whose

duty it would be to preside at a trial if a charge were laid shall inquire into the circumstances, and may recommend an arbitration, or that a charge be laid, or that the matter be decided by a process of law, as the circumstances may require. If he recommend an arbitration the proceedings shall be as herein above provided.

257. When a member fails in business, or contracts debts which he is unable to pay, or is charged with non-payment of debts, the officer whose duty it would be to preside if a charge were laid shall appoint a Committee of Inquiry, composed of three members, and if they report that the accused has acted dishonestly or has contracted debts without the probability of paying them, let their report be considered as a charge, and let a trial be had thereon.

258. No person after trial and expulsion as aforesaid shall have any privileges of society or of sacrament in the Church without contrition, confession and proper reception on trial.

SECTION V.

FORMS OF PROCEDURE IN TRIALS.

259. The forms in Appendix X. may be used, but their use shall not be obligatory, and no proceeding shall be declared null or set aside on a merely formal objection.

Part IV.

TEMPORAL ECONOMY.

VI. July

THEORY OF ECONOMY

TEMPORAL ECONOMY

CHAPTER I.

THE SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY.

260. It shall be the duty of the stewards to estimate the amount necessary to meet the salary and expenses of the minister or probationer stationed on any circuit or mission; subject, however, to the approval of the first meeting of the Quarterly Official Board, according to the following rules:

1. The appropriation for the salary of a married minister shall be not less than \$1,200.00 per annum; for an ordained single minister the appropriation shall be not less than \$1,000.00 per annum; for a probationer for the ministry the appropriation shall be not less than \$800.00 per annum.

2. In every case the appropriation for a married minister shall be exclusive of the necessary expenses for incidentals, horse-keep or its equivalent (\$150.00 to be allowed therefor, but in case of horse-keep or its equivalent, the actual expenses allowed shall not exceed \$150.00), rent or free use of parsonage, exemption from taxes, and removal expenses. In the case of each single ordained minister, and of each probationer for the

ministry, the appropriation shall be exclusive of the necessary expenses for incidentals, horse-keep or its equivalent, and removal expenses. All ministerial salaries shall be paid monthly.

3. It is the well-recognized and long-settled usage and law of the Church, that neither the Church nor any board or committee thereof assumes any legal obligation to any minister or probationer to pay or provide any specified salary, or becomes responsible for payment of any minimum amount mentioned in the Discipline of the Church.

4. The allowances to the children of ministers shall depend upon the practice of the respective Annual Conferences, under the constitution of the Children's Fund.

261. In the case of the death of a minister not on a mission, his widow shall receive the full amount of the appropriation for salary (not already paid) for the year, and shall have the right to occupy the parsonage during the remainder of the Conference year; in which case she shall be responsible for the board of the supply, whose salary shall be provided by the Quarterly Official Board. In case of inability to meet the increased demands a claim on the Contingent Fund is admissible.

262. One minister and one layman shall be appointed by each District Meeting to act with the Chairman of the District as a committee to visit all missions and weak circuits in the District and ascertain the amounts that can be contributed by each congregation. If such amounts be not raised the District Meeting shall consider the advisability of discontinuing the appointment.

CHAPTER II.

CHURCH PROPERTY.

SECTION I.

CHURCHES AND CHURCH PROPERTY.

263. When it is proposed to acquire a site for a new church on any circuit or mission, the same shall be subject to the approval of the Chairman of the District and of the Quarterly Official Board, which shall take care that the ground or lot is secured according to our Deed of Settlement. If the Chairman be of opinion that any other circuit or mission may be affected thereby he shall notify the Superintendent thereof. In case of objection, if the parties cannot agree, the difficulty shall be settled by arbitration.

264. The Quarterly Official Board, on the nomination of the Superintendent, shall appoint a Board of not less than five nor more than twenty-one trustees, all of whom shall be members of the Methodist Church, and at least twenty-one years of age; and the property shall be acquired by them under the provisions of the Methodist Union Act and Model Deed and duly registered.

265. The building, rebuilding or enlargement of a church shall not be proceeded with until a judicious committee of at least three members of the church shall have formed an estimate of the amount necessary to

build. Three-fourths of the money required by such estimate must be secured or paid before any such building may be commenced.

266. The foregoing provisions shall apply also, as far as practicable, to parsonages and other church property. Furnished parsonages should be provided on all circuits and missions for ministers and their families. Until this is done the Quarterly Official Board should appoint a committee to accomplish it. This committee, with the advice and aid of the Superintendent and ministers having jurisdiction in the matter, shall devise and use means to effect this purpose. Annual Conferences shall inquire as to how far this has been complied with.

267. In case of the division of a circuit or mission where there are separate claims to parsonage or other church property, in case the parties cannot agree, each Quarterly Official Board shall appoint an arbitrator, and these two shall appoint a third. In case either circuit fails to appoint an arbitrator, or the two chosen fail to agree upon a third within a year after such division, the Chairman of the District shall appoint one. The decision of the arbitrators, or a majority of them, shall be final, and must be given within two years from such division.

268. 1. A correct list of all church property, including lands, churches, furniture, and other property, shall be obtained and kept on file by the General Secretary of the Board of Finance, who shall be the registrar for the time being. The list shall be laid before the General Conference for inspection.

2. It shall be the duty of the trustees to keep church property adequately insured.

269. Each Superintendent shall keep a detailed list, in permanent form, of all church property on his circuit or mission, showing its location, where the deeds are registered, and other necessary information. A copy of such list, according to General Conference Schedule, shall be forwarded to the Annual District Meeting next preceding each General Conference.

SECTION II.

DUTIES OF MINISTERS AND TRUSTEES REGARDING CHURCH PROPERTY.

270. It shall be the duty of all ministers, trustees, and others interested in church property, and having duties connected therewith, to carefully inform themselves of, and to observe, the provisions of the Model Deed and of the Discipline relating to the same.

271. Special attention is called to the following particulars, which are to be interpreted and governed by the fuller provisions of the Model Deed and Discipline:

1. All parts of public worship in all our churches, including the music and singing, shall be under the control and direction of the Superintendent of the circuit, subject to the Discipline and general usages of the Methodist Church. (See Par. 80.)

2. Churches shall be used only for public worship, and for public and other meetings and services of a

religious or spiritual character, held according to the rules, Discipline, and general usages of the Methodist Church. No preaching or teaching shall be allowed therein which is contrary to or inconsistent with Methodist standards. It is the duty of trustees to see that these provisions are strictly observed.

3. The trustees are entitled to the pew rents and other rents, and the subscriptions and collections for the purposes of the trust; but not to collections or subscriptions for connexional or Quarterly Board purposes, according to the rules, Discipline, and general usages of the Methodist Church.

4. The two boards may make arrangements, not contrary to Discipline or the Model Deed, for the management of funds under the control of either of them.

5. The minister or ministers for the time being shall be entitled to occupy the parsonage or parsonages free of rent. If not required for this purpose the trustees may rent it or them.

6. The rents and income from the trust property shall be used to pay taxes, insurance, repairs, interest on borrowed money, the expense of cleaning, warming, lighting and attending to the church, and any other debts of the trust. Any surplus may be devoted to ministers' salaries, building other churches, or to connexional objects.

7. It is the duty of trustees to appoint annually a secretary, who shall keep a correct record of their meetings; also a treasurer, who shall keep accurate detailed accounts, which shall be audited each year by the Super-

intendent and Quarterly Board stewards or their deputies, and laid before the first Quarterly Official Meeting after January 1st. They also shall appoint one of their number to represent them on the Quarterly Board.

8. The trustees also may appoint one or more of their number as steward or stewards, and assign him or them particular duties. These are quite distinct from and should not be confounded with the stewards of the Quarterly Board.

9. Meetings of trustees may be called by the Superintendent, or by two trustees, by written notice. At least seven days' notice shall be given of any meeting for selling or mortgaging trust property, or for other important business. Reasonable notice of all other meetings shall be given. The Superintendent, or his deputy appointed in writing, shall be the chairman, but in their absence the trustees may appoint one of themselves as chairman. A majority of the trustees shall form a quorum, save when the number of trustees exceeds nine, when five shall form a quorum. Questions shall be decided by a majority vote of the trustees present. In case of a tie the chairman shall give a casting vote. The Superintendent or his deputy (if not a trustee) shall not vote except in case of a tie. It is the duty of trustees faithfully to attend the meetings of the Trustee Board.

10. A majority of the trustees, on regular action in such meetings, may sell church lands or other real property with the consent of the Annual Conference.

11. The office of a trustee becomes vacant (*a*) by his death; (*b*) by his ceasing to be a member of the Methodist Church; (*c*) by his resignation when accepted by a two-thirds vote of his co-trustees; (*d*) by his removing to such a distance as, in the opinion of his co-trustees, expressed by a two-thirds vote, shall render it inexpedient for him to remain in the trust; (*e*) by his failing to attend the meetings of trustees for the period of a year (not embracing less than three consecutive meetings) if two-thirds of his co-trustees vote to remove him. It is the duty of trustees to fill vacancies promptly in order to keep up the efficiency of the Board. When it is proposed to vote at a meeting of trustees with regard to the resignation or removal from office of a co-trustee, the notice convening the meeting should state that fact.

12. When one or more vacancies occur on the Trustee Board, the surviving or remaining trustees may by a two-thirds vote reduce the number of trustees by one or more up to the number of such vacancies, provided the number remaining shall be not less than five; but should such resolution not be passed vacancies shall be filled by members of the Methodist Church, at least twenty-one years of age, nominated by the Superintendent of the Circuit and appointed by a majority vote of the trustees present; in case of a tie the Superintendent to have a casting vote. No resignation shall be accepted while a vacancy remains unfilled; and no more than one resignation shall be accepted by one vote.

13. In case there be no surviving trustee the Quarterly Board shall appoint trustees as in the case of a new Board.

14. The Trustee Board may increase the number of trustees, but not to exceed twenty-one.

15. It is the duty of trustees always to act in the interest of the congregation and the Methodist Church, for whom they hold the property in trust.

SECTION III.

COLLEGE BOARDS.

272. No teaching or preaching contrary to or inconsistent with the standards of doctrine and articles of religion of the Methodist Church shall be allowed in any college, school or connexional institution, nor shall any person teach or be permitted to teach therein any such contrary doctrine; and it shall be the duty of the governing persons, boards, presidents and other chief officers of such colleges, schools and institutions to see that this provision is strictly observed.

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Part V.

CONNEXIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

Y. Smith

Continental Insurance Co.

CONNEXIONAL INSTITUTIONS

CHAPTER I.

CONNEXIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

SECTION I.

THE BOOK AND PRINTING ESTABLISHMENTS.

I. The Book Committee—Its Powers and Duties.

273. The General Conference shall appoint, quadrennially, a Book Committee, to be composed of ministers and laymen residing within the bounds of the several Annual Conferences, as follows: From the Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, and Montreal Conferences, each two ministers and two laymen; from the Nova Scotia and the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conferences, each five members; from the Newfoundland Conference, two members; from the Manitoba Conference, three ministers and three laymen; from the Saskatchewan Conference, two ministers and three laymen; from the Alberta Conference, two ministers and one layman, and from the British Columbia Conference,

one minister and one layman. These members shall be elected by the delegates of the several Annual Conferences, meeting separately, and with the Book Stewards, Editors, and General Secretary of Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues, and two members of the Superannuation Fund Board, who shall be elected by that board, shall constitute the Book Committee for the quadrennium following their appointment.

274. 1. At the first meeting after its appointment the Book Committee shall divide into three sections, to be called, respectively, the "Central," "Eastern," and "Western" Sections of the Book Committee.

2. The Central Section shall consist of the members of the Committee residing within the bounds of the Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, and Montreal Conferences; four members to be elected by the Western Section from among its own membership; the Book Steward of the Central Section; the Editor of the *Christian Guardian*; the Editor of the Sunday school periodicals; the Editor of *Youth and Service*; and two representatives elected by the Superannuation Fund Board. Eleven members shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

3. The Eastern Section shall consist of the members residing within the bounds of the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland Conferences, the Book Steward of the Eastern Section, and the Editor of the *Wesleyan*; seven of whom shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

4. The Western Section shall consist of the members of the Committee residing within the bounds of the Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia Conferences. Seven members shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

275. The Central Section shall have the control and supervision of the Book and Printing Establishment in the city of Toronto, and of any other that may be established by the General Conference within the bounds of the Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, Montreal, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia Conferences.

276. The Central Section of the Book Committee shall have power in case of emergency to modify, consolidate, rearrange or change the make-up or price of any of its publications so as to secure greater economy of production, increase of circulation or other advantages.

277. The Eastern Section shall have the control and supervision of the Book and Printing Establishment in the city of Halifax, and of any other that may be established within the bounds of the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland Conferences.

278. Each Section shall elect its own Secretary, and in the absence of the General Superintendent shall appoint its own Chairman.

279. The Central and Eastern Sections shall meet annually, on or before the fourth Wednesday in May, in Toronto and Halifax respectively, when they shall fill up any vacancies that may have occurred in their numbers

during the year. When vacancies occur in the Annual Conference representation on the Book Committee by the transfer of such representative or representatives, the said vacancy shall be filled by the Conference thus affected, at its next ensuing annual meeting.

280. The Committees shall examine the proceedings of the Executive Committee and the business of each establishment during the preceding year.

281. They shall provide for an annual valuation of the stock, machinery, debts, and other property, and annually appoint suitable persons to audit the accounts, and prepare a full and clear report to be laid before the Annual Conferences which they respectively represent.

282. If it shall be deemed desirable by the Central and Eastern Sections of the Book Committee that the *Wesleyan* and *Christian Guardian* shall be amalgamated, they shall have authority to carry such amalgamation into effect, the concurrence of the Eastern Conferences affected having first been obtained, and with the same concurrence shall have authority to readjust the relation of the Halifax Book Room to the Book and Publishing House of Toronto in such manner as may be deemed expedient.

283. Each Section shall have authority to suspend either a Book Steward or Editor for incompetency, or for culpable neglect of the duties of his office, and to supply his place until the next General Conference: *Provided always*, that no such suspension shall take place except by the vote of *three-fourths* of the members of the Section.

284. In case of the death, resignation or permanent disability of a Book Steward or Editor during his term of office, the Section having supervision of the establishment in which such vacancy occurs shall have power to appoint a successor to fill the office until the next General Conference.

285. At the end of each quadrennial term each Section shall cause a correct valuation of the real property, stock, machinery, debts and other property to be made, entering such property at its actual value, and report the same to the General Conference.

286. At the close of the quadrennial period each section shall carefully review the business of the preceding four years of the Book and Publishing Establishment within its jurisdiction, and prepare a full report of the same to be presented to the General Conference.

287. A special meeting of the members of any Section, or of the Executive of any Section, may be called by the General Superintendent, or by the Book Steward and Editor, or by any three members.

288. All real estate and other property connected with the Book and Printing Establishment in the city of Toronto, and any other that may be acquired within the bounds of the Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, and Montreal Conferences, shall be vested in the Central Section of the Book Committee and their successors in office, who shall apply all profits not required in the business for the exclusive benefit of the Superannuation Fund.

289. All property connected with the Book and Printing Establishment in the city of Halifax, and any other that may be acquired within the bounds of the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland Conferences, shall be vested in the Eastern Section of the Book Committee and their successors in office, who shall apply all profits not required in the business for the exclusive benefit of the Supernumerary Fund.

290. All property in the city of Winnipeg or elsewhere connected with the Western publishing interests shall be vested in the Western Section, and any profits not required in the business of publishing the connexional paper there shall be applied to the Superannuation Fund.

291. Each Section of the Book Committee, at its first meeting, and at each subsequent annual meeting, shall appoint an Executive Committee. This Committee shall meet at such times as the General Superintendent or the Book Steward may desire, to review the business done and advise and decide in all matters submitted for their consideration.

292. The Executive Committee of the Central Section shall consist of one minister and one layman from each of the following Conferences: Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, and Montreal; one minister or layman from the Western members of the Central Section; the Book Steward and the Editors; and the representatives of the Superannuation Fund Board. Six shall constitute a quorum.

293. The Executive Committee of the Eastern Section shall consist of *five* members—three of whom shall constitute a quorum—who shall be selected from those members of the Eastern Section residing in the vicinity of the Book Room in Halifax.

294. The Executive of the Western Section shall consist of five members—three of whom shall form a quorum—who shall be selected from the members residing in or near Winnipeg.

295. Each Executive Committee shall appoint its own Chairman and Secretary, and keep a correct record of the business transacted at its meetings, which shall be submitted to the respective Sections of the Book Committee at their annual meeting.

296. All books which may be published by order of the General Conference under the direction of any one of the existing Book Establishments shall be furnished to the other establishments at cost.

II. *The Book Stewards.*

297. The General Conference shall elect by ballot a Book Steward who shall have charge of the Book and Printing Establishment in Toronto, under the direction of the Central Section of the Book Committee; and also a Book Steward who shall have charge of the Book and Printing Establishment in Halifax, under the direction of the Eastern Section of the Book Committee.

298. It shall be the duty of each Book Steward to purchase all materials and books required for the estab-

lishment under his charge, keeping in view the mental wants of the Church and the religious instruction of the people generally. *Nevertheless*, before purchasing plant or materials for improvement involving unusual expenditure, he shall obtain the consent of the Executive Committee. He shall give the committee such information as it may require concerning the state of the business, and present to it a half-yearly statement of the affairs of the establishment. He shall also present annually to the meeting of his Section of the Book Committee a balance sheet exhibiting the financial state of the Book Room and periodicals, together with a cash account showing the sources whence the money has been received and the purposes for which it has been paid; such balance sheet to be mailed in printed form to the members of the Book Committee at least ten days before the annual meeting of said Committee.

299. Each Book Steward shall conduct the business of his department in the most efficient and economical manner, and pay over to the Treasurer of the Superannuation or Supernumerary Fund such proportion of the profits as the respective Sections of the Book Committee shall determine.

300. The Central Section of the Book Committee shall have authority to appoint an assistant to the Book Steward of the Central Section when circumstances so require. The Section shall have authority also to define the duties of such officer.

III. *The Editors and their Duties.*

301. The General Conference shall elect by ballot an Editor who shall have the editorial management of the *Christian Guardian*, an Editor of the Sunday school periodicals, under the direction of the Central Section of the Book Committee, and an Editor who shall have the editorial management of the *Wesleyan*, under the direction of the Eastern Section of the Book Committee, and who shall be elected for one year, power being given to the Eastern Section of the Book Committee to renew the appointment from year to year as circumstances may require. The General Secretary of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies is also Editor of the Epworth League paper, under the direction of the Central Section of the Book Committee.

302. It shall be the duty of the Editors to make their respective periodicals soundly Scriptural and instructive, and to put forth all reasonable efforts to render them the means of promoting right views on social, moral, and religious questions, and of stimulating the zeal of our people in supporting all our connexional enterprises.

303. They likewise shall supervise carefully the printing of all books and periodicals published at the respective Book Rooms; and it is required that in all matters respecting the publication of the periodicals the Book Stewards and Editors shall act in harmony.

304. Each Book Steward and Editor elected by the General Conference shall hold office for four years from

the time of his election, or from one General Conference to another. Each Book Steward and Editor shall be eligible for re-election, and shall continue in office, after the appointment of his successor, until the meeting of the Annual Conference to which he belongs.

SECTION II.

THE CHILDREN'S FUND.

305. Each Annual Conference may have a Children's Fund under its own control and management, subject to the following conditions and restrictions:

1. The revenue of any such fund shall be raised by such form of assessment as each Annual Conference in its judgment may consider best.

2. Upon the recommendation of the Annual Conference the Children's Fund Committee shall have the power to exempt any circuit or mission from the assessment for this fund.

3. The amount payable to each child until eighteen years of age shall be not more than twenty-five dollars per annum; and if in any case the fund shall not be sufficient to pay the full amount, it shall be divided *pro rata* according to the amount at the disposal of the Conference.

4. The claims of children whose fathers are employed on the French or Indian Missions shall be paid by the Missionary Society; provided that no missionary who

receives \$750 or more from all other sources shall receive any allowance from this fund. This regulation shall apply to all ministers.

5. No such claims shall be paid out of the Mission Funds in any Conference where the Children's Fund is abolished or discontinued.

6. The claimants on this fund shall be (a) the children of superannuated ministers, such as were born whilst their fathers were in the active work; (b) the children of such ministers in the active work as receive less than \$750 per annum from all other sources.

7. The Children's Fund of the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland Conferences may be continued on the same basis and under the same regulations as have previously existed in those Conferences, or according to such rules and regulations as they may deem best.

SECTION III.

THE CONTINGENT FUND.

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

306. Each Annual Conference shall have a Contingent Fund, to be called "The Contingent Fund of Conference of the Methodist Church."

II. *Object.*

307. The object of this fund shall be:

1. To relieve cases of special affliction and to defray extraordinary expenses incurred in the services of the Church.
2. The surplus, if any, shall be used for such objects as each Conference may define.

III. *Sources of Income.*

308. The sources of income shall be:

1. Collections to be taken up in all the congregations of our Church.
2. Subject to par. 427, the public collections taken up at each Annual Conference.

IV. *Committee.*

309. Each Annual District Meeting shall elect by ballot one minister and one layman, who shall constitute the Contingent Fund Committee for the Conference. It shall be the duty of this committee to consider all claims properly presented to it, and appropriate all the funds placed at its disposal to their proper objects, as directed by the Conference.

310. Each Annual Conference shall provide such regulations in reference to this fund, in accordance with the foregoing provisions, as it may deem necessary.

SECTION IV.

THE DEACONESS SOCIETY.

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

311. This organization shall be known as "The Deaconess Society of the Methodist Church."

II. *Object.*

312. The object of this society shall be to foster the interests of the Deaconess order; to conduct a training school; to promote the establishment of Deaconess Homes; to secure adequate maintenance for deaconesses and deaconess institutions.

III. *The General Board.*

313. The management and administration of the affairs of the society shall be vested in the General Board of Management, consisting of *ex-officio* and elected members as follows:

1. The *ex-officio* members shall be the General Superintendent, the General Secretary of Education, the General Secretary of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies, the General Secretary of Evangelism and Social Service, the President of the Woman's Missionary Society, the Principal of the Methodist National Training School and Superintendent of Deaconess Work.

2. The elective members^s shall be as follows: Five ministers and ten lay members (five men and five

women), all of whom shall be appointed by the General Conference and shall continue in office four years. The Board shall have authority to fill any vacancies that may occur during the interim of the General Conference.

3. Each Annual Conference, within whose bounds a Deaconess is employed, may appoint one representative on the General Board of Management. Such Conference shall bear the necessary expense incurred by such representation.

4. There shall be two representatives elected by the Board of Trustees, and one representative of the licensed deaconesses, who shall be elected quadrennially in a manner to be provided for by the General Board.

IV. *Officers.*

314. The officers of the Board shall be the General Superintendent of the Methodist Church, who shall be Chairman; a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall also be Treasurer of the Rest and Relief Fund, and who shall be elected annually by the Board.

The General Board of Management shall appoint the Principal of the Methodist National Training School and Superintendent of Deaconess Work, who shall be its executive officers.

V. *Executive Committee.*

315. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers of the Society, the representative of the licensed Deaconesses elected to the Board of Management, and nine other members, three ministers and six

lay members (three men and three women) to be elected by the Board of Management from among themselves. The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the work in the interim of the meeting of the Board of Management, and shall consider and decide all matters referred to it by the Board of Management. The Committee shall elect its own officers.

VI. *Meetings.*

316. The Board shall meet at least once a year.

VII. *Stationing Committee.*

317. 1. There shall be a Stationing Committee consisting of the officers of the Board of Management and one representative to be appointed by each Annual Conference Board. Each said Annual Conference Board shall bear the necessary expenses incurred by its representative when meeting on this Committee.

2. Two weeks' notice of the annual meeting of the Stationing Committee shall be given in writing.

3. The appointment of Deaconesses shall be made annually by the Stationing Committee. Appointments are for one year only, and may be renewed from year to year.

4. When it shall be considered in the best interests of the work, appointments may be made at any other time by an interim Stationing Committee; such interim Stationing Committee to be appointed by the Board of Management.

5. Appointments shall ordinarily terminate at the end of the Deaconess year, August 31st. Nevertheless, the interim Stationing Committee shall have power to deal with special cases.

The General Board may appoint such sub-committees as may be found necessary for the carrying on of the work.

VIII. *The Training School.*

318. 1. There shall be a training school, to be known as the Methodist National Training School for Christian Workers, and conducted under the direction of the General Board of Management.

2. The purpose of the Methodist National Training School shall be to give competent instruction and training to Deaconesses, candidates for missionary work, social service workers, and those desiring to engage in other forms of Christian service.

3. The Methodist National Training School shall be considered as a vital part of our educational system, and shall sustain the same relationship to our Educational Society concerning co-operation, direction, and support, as have the theological and other educational institutions of our Church.

IX. *Finance.*

319. 1. The General Board shall be empowered to solicit and receive contributions and bequests for the purpose of carrying on the work of the Society, includ-

ing the Rest and Relief Fund, which Fund shall be provided to ensure suitable support for Deaconesses laid aside through ill-health, or whose years of service make retirement necessary; also to meet such unusual personal expenditure as may be approved by the Committee in charge of this Fund. This claim shall be proportionate to the number of years she has been in active service, including the years of probation, but she must have given ten years in all. The amount of the allowance to retired Deaconesses must depend upon the income of the Rest Fund.

2. The Annual Conference Board shall have power to appeal annually to the Methodist churches of a city in which a Deaconess Home has been established for an amount sufficient to carry on the work of the Board, and, if necessity demands it, to widen the appeal to the churches of the Conference, with the consent of the Conference thereto.

3. Deaconesses shall be paid a settled amount to be determined by the General Board.

4. The General Board shall execute such trusts as may be necessary in the premises. All properties coming under the control of the General Board shall be held in trust for the Methodist Church according to the terms of the Model Deed.

X. Admission of Candidates.

320. (Apply to Superintendent of Deaconess Work for this section.)

XI. *General Regulations.*

321. 1. The duties of Deaconesses shall be to engage in such forms of Christian and social service as the Church may determine.

2. Deaconesses when on duty shall wear the prescribed dress of the order. The General Board or its Executive shall have power to take into consideration requests from Boards employing Deaconesses as to the disuse of the prescribed dress of the order.

3. The Superintendent of each Deaconess institution and each Deaconess doing special work shall be a member of the Quarterly Official Board, where her membership is held, and each stationed Deaconess shall be a member of the Quarterly Official Board where she is stationed.

4. Any Deaconess appointed to assist in the work of an individual church shall be under the direction of the pastor of that church, and shall make quarterly reports in the interests of the work to the Quarterly Official Board.

5. Any Deaconess desiring to retire from the work shall be permitted to do so upon giving three months' notice. Any Deaconess retiring from the work shall cease to wear the prescribed dress, and shall return her parchment and official badge to the Board.

6. A Deaconess who has faithfully performed her duties may request from the General Board a certificate of Honorable Release. This certificate may be granted by the Board, provided she present her license. Should she desire to have this returned to her, the President

of the Deaconess Board shall inscribe the date of the discharge.

7. A Deaconess who has been honorably discharged may be restored by the Board without probation or examination provided she present a recommendation from her Quarterly Board and a satisfactory certificate of health, and provided further, that she have the approval of the Application Committee.

8. No person shall be licensed by the Conference until she has given two years of probationary service and has passed a satisfactory examination on the prescribed course of study. She must be recommended by the Official Board where she has been stationed, and by the Superintendent of Deaconess Work and the Application Committee.

XII. *Constitution for Annual Conference.*

322. 1. There shall be an Annual Conference Board of Management in each Annual Conference. It shall be composed of twenty-one members, seven ministers and fourteen lay members (seven men and seven women), appointed by the Annual Conference. They shall exercise a general control of the interests of this form of work in their respective bounds, and have the management of the Conference Deaconess Homes and other Deaconess institutions within its bounds, which are not under the direction of the General Board of Management.

Superintendents of Deaconess institutions, within the bounds of the Conference, shall be *ex officio* members of the Annual Conference Board of Management.

2. The Board of Management shall be appointed annually by the Annual Conference.

3. Deaconess Homes and other institutions may be established by the Annual Conference Board in the cities and large towns where desirable or necessary. Any property acquired for this purpose shall be held in trust for the Methodist Church by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Board of Management of the Annual Conference in which such property is located.

4. The Annual Conference Board of Management may appoint a Board to manage each separate Deaconess institution within its bounds. Such Board shall be under the general supervision of the Annual Conference Board, to which they shall report annually.

5. The Board of Management shall report annually to the Conference both the names and work of the Deaconesses and the Deaconess institutions within its bounds.

6. Provision shall be made to recognize the Deaconess Aid Societies and place them under the direction of the Annual Conference Board. These societies shall report annually to the Annual Conference Board.

7. Each Annual Conference Board shall report the name of its representative on the Annual Stationing Committee to the Secretary of the General Board; such representative shall not be a Deaconess.

8. The Annual Conference Board of Management shall see that all charters, deeds and other conveyances of the property of Deaconess institutions conform

strictly to the Discipline. It shall see that all property is well insured.

9. A report of the work shall be published annually and shall include the report of each local board. Such boards shall be asked to bear a proportionate share of the cost of publication. For convenience the General Board may arrange to publish a joint report.

10. Each Conference Board shall have power to appoint an Executive Committee when it is deemed advisable.

SECTION V.

THE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

323. This Society shall be known as "The Educational Society of the Methodist Church."

II. *Objects.*

324. The objects of this society shall be to assist in maintaining our connexional universities and colleges and theological institutions; to defray the expenses of the examination of probationers for the ministry in our Church, and to aid such probationers in obtaining a suitable education, and in general to stimulate and guide the religious education of our people, and to combine in one effort the entire educational work of our Church.

III. *Members.*

325. All subscribers of two dollars per annum and upwards shall be members of the Society and entitled to a copy of the annual report.

IV. *Management.*

326. 1. The management of the Society shall be vested in a Board to be known as the Board of Education of the Methodist Church, hereinafter called the "Board."

2. The Board shall be elected by the General Conference, on nomination of the Committee on Education. The General Superintendent, the General Secretary, and the General Treasurers shall be, *ex officio*, members of the Board.

3. It shall be the duty of the Board to review the whole educational work of the Church, and to take all possible measures in harmony with the officers of the Society and members of the Church so to increase the income of the Society that it shall be sufficient to meet the legitimate demands upon it.

4. It shall take such steps as shall (a) arouse and encourage all our theological colleges to establish courses in Sunday-school work and other departments of religious education, both for our laymen and ministers; (b) lead to the co-operation of our colleges and of the various general departments of our Church in the carrying on of such extension and correspondence courses as shall assist lay-workers, probationers and ministers in doing more effective service for the Church and the kingdom of Christ.

5. In case a complaint is received by the Board from any college board, as provided in Paragraph 238, the Board shall appoint a Committee of Trial, as provided in said paragraph. The presiding officer shall be the General Superintendent, who shall have all the powers and duties belonging to said officer.

6. The Board shall have power to secure such assistance, in addition to the General Secretary, as it shall deem necessary for the furtherance of the work of the Society.

7. No new educational institution or new faculty of an educational institution shall be initiated by any Church court or board, unless under the authority of the General Conference, without first having received the consent of the General Conference Special Committee, on the recommendation of the Board of Education.

8. No affiliation shall be formed by any connexional educational institution with any outside educational institution without the proposal for and the terms of such affiliation first having been submitted to the Board, and the representations of the Board thereon first having been considered.

9. The Board of a connexional educational institution shall not discontinue the work of the institution, or of any faculty of the institution (unless under the authority of the General Conference), without first having received the consent of the Board of Education.

10. The Board shall have control of the funds of the Educational Society, and shall distribute the same

according to the needs of the work and the policy of the Church.

11. The Board may make special grants to colleges for special periods to meet special needs, the continuance of such grants to be at the discretion of the Board and to constitute no precedent.

12. The Board shall meet at least once a year.

13. The Board shall appoint an Executive Committee of seven, a majority of whom shall be members of the Board. The Executive Committee shall have such powers and shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Board.

V. General Officers of the Society.

327. There shall be a General Secretary and two General Treasurers of the Society elected by the General Conference.

VI. Duties of the General Secretary.

328. The duties of the General Secretary shall be chiefly administrative. Under the direction of the Board, he shall take all measures possible, in harmony with the other officers and Boards of our Church, to increase the income of the Society, and to oversee and promote the interests of our educational work throughout the Dominion. He shall also, with the Secretary of the Board of Management, be authorized to secure uniformity among Conference Treasurers in the administration of the Educational Fund. He shall publish the Annual Report of the Society.

VII. *Duties of the General Treasurers.*

329. It shall be the duty of the General Treasurers.

1. To receive and account for the funds of the Society, and to disburse the same as ordered by the General Conference, or by the Board; to prepare an audited yearly statement of the same for publication in the Annual Report; also to prepare an audited statement for the quadrennium for the General Conference.

2. To remit to each college, at the opening of the session, the amount of fees to which probationers attending the college are entitled. These fees shall not exceed \$25 for each student, and shall be a grant and not a loan.

3. Where loans are granted they shall be repaid to the Secretary of Education in ten equal semi-annual instalments. The college authorities shall require every recipient of a loan to sign a note furnished by the Department of Education. These notes shall be held in trust by the Board, which shall be responsible for the collection of the amounts when due. The full amount of the loan becomes due at once upon the student ceasing to be a probationer or a minister of the Methodist Church. No interest is attached to these loans if repaid when due, but interest shall be charged at the rate of six per cent. per annum after the maturity of each instalment. To any probationer paying his notes before maturity, either in whole or in part, a discount of five per cent. per annum shall be made for the unexpired term of loan. No probationer during his college course shall be granted more than \$300 in loans from the Educational Society.

VIII. *Sources of Income.*

330. 1. Sermons shall be preached on behalf of the Society, and subscriptions and collections taken up in aid of the fund in all our churches and preaching places, at such times as may be directed by the Financial District Meeting.

2. A special collection for the Educational Fund, wherever practicable, shall be taken up annually in each Sunday school on a Sunday to be appointed by the Superintendent of the circuit in consultation with the Superintendent of the Sunday school.

3. The subscriptions and collections from churches and Sunday schools, together with contributions from the Epworth Leagues or other young people's societies, and the interest on the Permanent Fund, constitute the sources of the current income of the Society.

IX. *The Permanent Fund.*

331. The Permanent Fund of the Society shall consist of the funds from the bequests, legacies, etc., now held and invested by the General Treasurers, and of such bequests and legacies as may be received hereafter by the Society, and of the refunds of loans to students; nevertheless the General Board, through the Executive Committee, is given the right to appropriate the amount of such refunds for the current account, if the exigencies of the fund imperatively demand it.

X. *Branches.*

332. 1. A Conference branch of the Society shall be organized in each Annual Conference, under the management of a committee of such Conference, composed of the President of the Conference and one minister and one layman elected by the Annual District Meeting. A Secretary and a Treasurer shall be appointed by the Conference on the nomination of the committee.

2. A circuit branch of the Society shall be organized on each circuit or mission. Under its direction, where practicable, meetings shall be held, at which the claims of our educational work shall be placed before our people and collections and subscriptions taken for the funds of the Society.

XI. *Annual Conference Committee.*

333. Each Annual Conference Committee shall meet at the time and place of the meeting of its Conference for the following purposes:

1. To consider the cases of all probationers recommended by District Meetings to attend college, and propose to Conference the college they shall attend; and to report to the General Treasurers the names of probationers who have travelled at least one year and are entitled to consideration in receiving summer employment and remuneration therefor in addition to said fees. A student may be appointed to attend any of our connexional institutions.

2. To examine and order payment of the approved accounts of expenses of examinations within the bounds of the Conference.

XII. *District Secretary.*

334. An Educational Secretary for each District shall be elected by the Annual Conference on the nomination of the Chairman of the District, and his name and address shall be published in the minutes of Conference.

XIII. *Aid to Students.*

335. 1. Probationers in attendance at college who may be employed under any of the General Boards of the Church during the summer vacation shall be remunerated for such employment on a basis agreed upon between the Department concerned and the Board of Education.

2. The Board of Education shall endeavor to secure suitable employment for other students as far as practicable during the summer months.

3. It is understood that this summer employment plan for aiding our probationers (as outlined in the previous sections) does not preclude the Board or Executive Committee from dealing with special cases as in its judgment may seem right, in accordance with General Conference legislation.

4. A probationer not in actual attendance at the college to which he was appointed in harmony with the

Discipline is not eligible to receive aid from the Educational Society; however, a married probationer who has been exempted from attendance at college by his Conference, under the provisions of the Discipline, shall have the same claim as any other probationer for the fees that may be exacted by the connexional college directing his studies and examining him in the subjects of the three years of the course usually taken at college.

XIV. *Duties of Annual Conference Treasurer.*

336. 1. To report to the General Secretary a list of students recommended for aid.

2. To see, in the case of any minister or probationer proposing to sever his connection with the ministry of our Church, that all loans are refunded before his credentials are given him by Conference.

3. To have his books duly audited at the close of the Conference year, and to send an audited statement with cash on hand to the General Treasurer immediately after the Annual Conference.

SECTION VI.

EVANGELISM AND SOCIAL SERVICE.

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

337. The name shall be "The Department of Evangelism and Social Service of the Methodist Church."

II. *Object.*

338. The object of this Department shall be the application of the principles of the Gospel of Jesus to the economic, political, social and moral relations of life, and the promotion of evangelism throughout the Church.

III. *General Board.*

339. There shall be a General Conference Board for the direction of the Department of Evangelism and Social Service of the Methodist Church. The Board shall be composed of:

1. The officers of the Department, who shall be the General Superintendent (who shall preside at meetings of the Board and Executive, when he is present), the General Secretary (who shall be the Secretary of the Board), the Treasurer, and the Field Secretaries.

2. One minister and one layman, elected for the quadrennium by the General Conference, on the nomination of the respective Conference delegations meeting separately, from each of the following Conferences: Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, and Montreal; also one minister and one layman to be elected annually by each of the above named Annual Conferences on the nomination of the Conference Committee on Evangelism and Social Service.

3. Two ministers and two laymen from the Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia

Conferences, respectively, and one minister and one layman from Newfoundland Conference, elected for the quadrennium by the General Conference on the nomination of the delegation of each respective Annual Conference, meeting separately; also two ministers and two laymen from the Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia Conferences, respectively, and one minister and one layman from Newfoundland Conference, to be elected annually by each Annual Conference, on the nomination of the Conference Committee on Evangelism and Social Service.

4. Two representatives to be appointed by the Board of Managers of the Woman's Missionary Society.

IV. *Provincial Groups.*

340. 1. The General Secretary and Field Secretaries, with the members of the General Board within each territorial division, shall constitute the Provincial group for the respective Provinces of Canada and for Newfoundland. It shall be the duty of the several groups to promote and guard the interests of every form of social service, including temperance and prohibition, and keep before the Church the necessity of the work of Evangelism, within their respective jurisdictions, under the principles laid down by the General Conference; and it shall be the duty of the General Board to lend each group all possible aid in its efforts to promote these enterprises.

2. Each Provincial group may convene as deemed advisable, under the call of the General Secretary, or of a Convener to be named by the General Secretary, to consider issues affecting the Province. Each group shall elect a chairman and secretary. The General Secretary may authorize the payment of the travelling expenses to such meeting. When such meeting is held, the Secretary thereof shall report the proceedings to the General Secretary for the information of the Board.

3. Each Provincial group shall have authority to fill any vacancy caused by disability or transfer occurring among its representatives elected by General Conference. The vacancy shall be filled by nomination and ballot.

V. Annual Meeting.

341. The Annual Meeting of the General Board shall be held at such time and place as the General Superintendent may direct. It shall be composed as follows:

1. The officers of the Department;
2. The members of the Board in the Ontario group;
3. One member of the General Board from each Annual Conference with jurisdiction outside of Ontario, who shall be elected annually by the Annual Conference. The members of the General Board in these Conferences who may not be elected to the Annual Meeting shall be members if present at any session of the Annual Meeting.

4. In case of a grave crisis affecting the whole Dominion, so that extraordinary action may seem necessary, it shall be competent for the Executive Committee either to summon all the groups of the Board to meet in joint session, or to call for a special meeting of the Board as composed for the Annual Meeting.

VI. *Powers of the Board.*

342. 1. The Board shall have general oversight of all social service work (including temperance and prohibition) and promote evangelism throughout the Church.

2. It shall have authority to make representations to Governments, Legislatures, and Parliament in harmony with the declared principles and policy of the General Conference, on all matters of legislation and administration which affect any question of social service.

3. It shall keep before the whole Church the necessity for evangelistic work on the part of our pastors and people, and devise methods as to how this can be done.

4. It may organize and conduct social service enterprises, carrying on these institutions itself, or uniting with other boards within the Church, or other bodies engaged in similar work.

5. It may undertake such plans as are deemed advisable to render assistance in the solution of the Problem of the City and the Problem of the Country as these problems affect the character of the citizenship of the community.

6. It may co-operate with other public bodies engaged in the same field of work.

7. It may appoint one or more Field Secretaries when circumstances require and financial conditions permit, and may determine the salaries and define the duties of such officers.

8. It may employ, or authorize to act under its auspices and direction, additional social service evangelists, for such periods of time and in such spheres or localities as it may deem expedient.

9. It may secure reports of social service work carried on by congregations, city unions, mission boards, or any other organization of the church, and render such assistance, as may be practicable, to any of these enterprises.

10. It may employ probationers in attendance at college for summer supply work in the interests of social service work, arranging for their remuneration with the Board of Education or the Missionary Society.

11. It shall render every possible assistance to the efforts of any Provincial group in any campaign in behalf of social service within its territory.

12. It may organize lecture bureaus to assist in campaigns for any form of social service in any part of the field of work of the Church.

13. It may arrange for the publication and circulation of suitable literature.

14. It may elect a chairman for any meeting of the Board when the General Superintendent is not present.

VII. *Executive Committee.*

343. The General Board, at each Annual Meeting, shall elect an Executive Committee. This committee shall be composed of the officers and twelve others, (six ministers and six laymen) of whom not less than eight shall be members of the Board. This committee shall advise and direct the General Secretary in his work, and in the interval between meetings of the Board shall attend to any necessary business, exercising all the authority of the Board.

VIII. *The General Secretary.*

344. There shall be a General Secretary, who shall be known as the General Secretary of the Department of Evangelism and Social Service. He shall be elected by the General Conference. He shall be the medium of communication between the General Conference Board and all parts of our work; shall conduct the correspondence of the Department and attend to the general business of the same; shall collect and disseminate information bearing upon the work of this Department of the Church; shall propagate the principles and promote the policy adopted by the General Conference in regard to evangelism and social service, under the direction of the General Conference Board; shall travel throughout the Church, holding meetings in the interests of social service and evangelism in co-operation with Superintendents of circuits and Chairmen of Districts, and where possible shall attend temperance and other social service anniversaries of congregations, Sun-

day school and Epworth League Conventions, District Meetings, and sessions of Annual Conferences, to present the claims of the Department and develop interest in every effort for human betterment, social service and evangelism. He is authorized to receive collections and contributions on behalf of the work of the Department. He shall report as directed by the Annual Meeting or the Executive Committee concerning his work.

IX. *The Field Secretaries.*

345. The Field Secretaries shall assist the General Secretary in his work. While their specific duties may be defined by the General Board, they have authority, under direction of the General Secretary, to travel throughout the Church, holding meetings in the interests of evangelism and social service, taking part in temperance and other campaigns, attending Conferences, District meetings and congregational gatherings, wherever opportunity occurs for presenting the claims and interesting the people in the work of the Department. They also are authorized to receive collections and contributions for the Department. They shall report their work to the General Secretary.

X. *The Treasurer.*

346. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the General Conference. He shall receive and account for all collections and contributions given on behalf of the work of the Board. He shall disburse all funds as

ordered by the General Board or the Executive Committee. He shall present an audited yearly statement of receipts and disbursements to the annual meeting of the General Board, for publication in the annual report; also an audited statement for the quadrennium to each General Conference.

XI. *Revenue.*

347. 1. Sermons shall be preached on behalf of the work of the Department in all our churches and preaching places, when subscriptions and collections shall be taken in aid of the fund. It is recommended that a simultaneous campaign be arranged by the Financial District Meeting, when all the congregations of the District shall hold special meetings, on the same day if practicable, at which the work of the Department will be explained.

2. Whenever the General Secretary or the Field Secretaries address meetings on Sundays or week evenings in behalf of the Department, they may appeal for contributions in aid of its work.

3. The Superintendent of each circuit and mission, not later than the first day of the Annual District Meeting in each year, shall present the list of subscribers to the fund, for publication in the annual report. These lists shall include a statement of the gross receipts and local expenses, and shall be forwarded by the District Secretary of Evangelism and Social Service to the General Secretary immediately after the District Meeting. A copy of the circuit list and statement should be kept

by the Superintendent for reference and for the information of subscribers.

4. The General Secretary and the Field Secretaries may also request and receive offerings additional to the above at meetings held and addressed by them, and may solicit personal contributions from individuals in aid of the work of the Department, or for special enterprises undertaken by the Board. All such amounts shall be paid to the Treasurer and acknowledged by him to the donor.

5. The salary and expenses of the General Secretary and the Field Secretaries shall be paid out of the revenues of the Board.

XII. *Auxiliary Organizations.*

348. 1. (a) Each Annual Conference may elect a Standing Committee on Evangelism and Social Service. The members of the General Board within the Conference shall be, *ex officio*, members of this committee. Meetings may be called by the General Secretary, in which case he may authorize the payment of travelling expenses from the general fund. This committee shall report its work to the ensuing Annual Conference and to the General Conference Board of Evangelism and Social Service.

(b) Each Annual Conference Committee on Evangelism and Social Service shall adopt the following methods, among others:—

(1) The study of conditions within the Conference territory relating to the prospects and progress of evangelistic work:

(2) The arrangement, in conjunction with the Chairmen of Districts, of spiritual conferences with ministers, officials and members of the Church;

(3) The conduct of social surveys of circuits, districts, and the whole conference, to secure definite data concerning social, industrial and moral conditions which affect the work of the Church, and thus assist in evangelistic efforts.

(4) The providing, as far as possible, of personal service for those who may desire help, in co-operation with the Laymen's Associations;

(5) The free use of forceful literature.

2. The Annual Conference Sessional Committee on Evangelism and Social Service shall meet during the session of the Annual Conference. It shall be composed of the members of the General Board within the Conference, the department secretaries when present, one minister and one layman from each District, the District Secretary being one member and the Annual District Meeting electing the other member. The Conference may appoint other members of this Committee. It shall consider the annual report of the Standing Committee, the memorials from District Meetings referred to it, and any other matters coming within the scope of the Department. It shall present its report to the Annual Conference for consideration and action thereon.

3. (a) The Secretary of Evangelism and Social Service for the District shall be elected by the Annual Conference, on the nomination of the Sessional Committee

of the Conference. His name and address shall be printed in the Minutes of the Annual Conference.

(b) He shall be a member of the Sessional Committee of the next ensuing Annual Conference, and shall be also a member of the Executive of the District Epworth League.

(c) He shall assume the oversight and leadership in the work of the Department throughout the District by giving effect to recommendations of the General Board and Annual Conference; co-operate with the General Secretary and the Field Secretaries in their work; aid Superintendents of circuits to arrange for the annual meetings and send the circuit lists to the General Secretary immediately after the Annual District Meeting; plan simultaneous campaigns and spiritual conferences for the District, and for carrying on the work of evangelism on every circuit and mission; urge campaigns in behalf of the overthrow of the liquor traffic, gambling, social vice, and kindred evils, and at the same time shall assist heartily every campaign which in any community seeks the righting of any moral or social wrong, the uplift of citizenship, and the incoming of the Kingdom of God among men.

(d) He shall assist in the organization of Good Citizenship Brotherhoods, and remind our people that the Department is always ready to render every possible aid in behalf of evangelism and social service.

(e) He shall keep the General Secretary informed concerning all matters affecting the Department within the District, and present a written report of his work

to the Annual District Meeting, which shall be sent forward to Conference, and by Conference to the General Secretary.

(f) As a member of the executive of the District Epworth League he shall earnestly co-operate therewith to increase the efficiency of the Good Citizenship Department of the local Leagues.

4. A Committee on Evangelism and Social Service shall be appointed by the Quarterly Official Board of each circuit. This committee shall consist of the Superintendent of the circuit, who shall be chairman, and not less than three others, who shall be members of the Church. It shall present a written report to the May meeting of the Official Board, which shall be sent forward through the District Meeting by the District Secretary to the General Secretary.

(a) This committee shall have general oversight of the work of evangelism and social service within the bounds of the circuit. It shall aid in every practicable way the evangelistic work of the congregation, promote temperance principles and practice among our people, represent the congregation in all campaigns for evangelism and social betterment, render any possible assistance to ensure the success, both in interest, attendance and finance, of the annual meeting of the Department in the circuit, and in every practicable way arouse the interest of the people on the circuit in all efforts for spiritual uplift and human welfare.

(b) In towns or cities where there are two or more circuits or missions it is recommended that a Methodist

Union for evangelism and social service be organized by all the Official Board Committees uniting for such purpose. There should be a chairman, secretary and treasurer of such Union. Each Official Board committee shall represent the Union in its congregation. In places where there is already a federation of Methodist churches for social service purposes the Department is recommended to work, wherever possible, through these organizations.

5. The women of the church in any community may be formed into a Methodist Women's League for Social Service, to carry on any special work within the scope of the Board.

XIII. *Brotherhoods.*

349. 1. (a) The Superintendent of any circuit may organize, where desirable, the men of his congregation into a Brotherhood.

(b) The purpose of such brotherhood shall be to unite all efforts seeking the welfare and improvement of the spiritual, mental, social and physical life of its members; to develop a higher character in the citizenship of the community; to render practical assistance to every effort for social uplift and human betterment; to build up the church with which it is connected, and to furnish and take advantage of opportunities for individual and combined service for the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ among men.

(c) Each Brotherhood, while free to adopt its own

constitution and by-laws, is recommended to adopt the following:

SUGGESTED CONSTITUTION FOR LOCAL BROTHERHOODS.

Article I.

The name of this organization shall be the Brotherhood of the Methodist Church of; or, This organization shall be known as.....Brotherhood.

Article II.

The object of this Brotherhood shall be threefold:—

1. To unite the men in friendship and fellowship on a definite plan of social service for conserving and promoting church interests.

2. To win other men to Christ and the Church, and bring them into this fellowship of service.

3. To co-operate in the affairs of our Church at large, and in the world to act as Christians.

Article III.

The membership shall include all the men of the congregation, and any others who may desire to enter into fellowship with the Brotherhood.

Article IV.

The officers shall be: Honorary President; President; 1st Vice-President, in charge of Bible study; 2nd Vice-President, in charge of social service work; 3rd Vice-President, in charge of athletics; Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Article V.

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers, the chairmen of standing committees, and three other members elected by the annual meeting.

2. Committees may be appointed as the necessity demands.

3. The Superintendent of the circuit shall be, *ex officio*, a member of the Executive Committee.

Article VI.

This constitution may be amended at any business meeting of the Brotherhood by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided formal notice has been given to the members at least one month in advance. It is always necessary that the constitution and by-laws shall receive the approval of the Official Board. The society shall present its annual report to the Quarterly Official Board, and to the Board of Evangelism and Social Service of the Methodist Church.

SECTION VII.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

350. There shall be a Department of Finance, with a General Secretary elected by the General Conference.

The General Board.

351. The department shall be carried on under the direction of a Board of Finance, composed as follows: the General Superintendent, the Secretary of the Department of Finance, and one minister and one layman elected by each Annual Conference for a term of four years, except that for the present quadrennium the delegates to the General Conference shall meet separately as Annual Conference delegations, and the election of members of the Board of Finance shall be as the elections to the other General Conference Boards.

Duties of the Board

352. There shall be committed to the Board of Finance:

(a) The promotion of Christian Stewardship.

(b) The management of the General Conference Fund.

(c) The management of the Church and Parsonage Aid Fund.

(d) The work of the Statistician of the General Conference.

(e) The work of Church Registrar as indicated in Par. 268.

(f) The preparation and oversight of all documents relating to the administration of the properties held by the church as a body corporate, not already or which may not hereafter be under the jurisdiction of any specified board or committee.

(g) The proper registration, as required by Federal and Provincial legislation, of all parcels of property owned by the Church either through trustees or otherwise.

353. The Board of Finance shall be empowered, after due investigation and on the approval of the General Conference Special Committee, to undertake the following departments of church business:

(a) A Property and Loan Department, to include the present Church and Parsonage Aid Fund. The following matters are recommended for the consideration of the Board:

(1) To provide adequate funds for the financing of

any approved purchases of real estate, and approved church buildings, at a low rate of interest.

(2) To seek to acquire and standardize plans and specifications for both church buildings and parsonages.

(3) To endeavor to meet the needs of such churches and church boards as are presently in a state of embarrassment by reason of onerous terms of existing liabilities.

(4) To ascertain the financial position of the various churches of the connexion and assist in the promotion of debt-paying campaigns wherever desirable.

(b) A Fire Insurance Department. A mutual or co-operative plan of insurance is recommended.

354. The relation of the Finance Department to the other connexional departments in regard to the financial support of their work shall be co-operative and advisory. The secretaries of these departments, including the Secretary of the Department of Finance, shall meet from time to time under the call of the General Superintendent for consultation regarding plans for presenting the needs of the work under their charge to the whole Church. It shall be competent for them to enter into co-operative effort in campaign work wherever this is found to be practicable and advisable.

Connexional Budget.

355. After the General Conference Boards in charge of the following departments: Missions, Edu-

ation, Evangelism and Social Service, Superannuation Fund, and Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies have discovered the budget needed in order to carry out their work for the year, a joint meeting of the General Secretaries of these departments be called by the General Superintendent in order that a single statement may be issued for the Church through the Annual Conferences, and otherwise, that the total needs of all the departments be brought before the whole Church.

356. Upon the presentation of the total connexional budget to the Church, each Annual Conference shall have the right to determine the amount which it will undertake to contribute to the support of the various benevolent enterprises of the Church. The Annual Conference, through its Finance Committee, or by other means, may indicate to the several districts their proportion of the total budget so adopted, and the District Meetings shall urge the circuits and missions to undertake their proportionate share as a minimum.

357. The expenses of the Department of Finance shall be charged against the General Conference Fund.

358. A weekly offering envelope system for raising church funds shall be adopted by our circuits and missions. Each circuit and mission shall adopt such a plan as may best suit local conditions, provided always that the method employed shall not in any way interfere with the present disciplinary provision for each department to carry on its work of inspiration and financial appeal.

359. The Superintendent of the circuit shall see that all moneys collected for connexional purposes are remitted monthly, if possible, but at least quarterly, to the treasurers of the several connexional funds.

360. There shall be a District Finance Committee, consisting of the Chairman of the District, the Financial Secretary of the District, and two laymen to be elected at the Annual District Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to take special interest in the financial methods and arrangements of the various circuits and missions of the District, and give whatever aid they can to assist any circuit or mission whose financial plans seem to need improvement.

361. There shall be elected at each Annual Conference a Finance Committee, consisting of six members, three ministers and three laymen. It shall be the duty of this committee to consider questions and methods affecting circuit financial problems, and to co-operate with the District Finance Committee in improving the financial methods on circuits and missions.

362. Christian Stewardship. There shall be committed to this Board the management and promotion of Christian Stewardship, through a Christian Stewardship Committee composed of two representatives of each department of the General Conference, together with five other members appointed by the General Conference. Such committee shall be charged with the task of initiating and conducting a campaign of education on Christian Stewardship throughout our whole Church.

I. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE FUND.

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

363. The name of this fund shall be "The General Conference Fund of the Methodist Church."

II. *Object.*

364. The object of this fund shall be to provide for:
1. Salary, office, and travelling expenses of the General Superintendent.

2. Expenses of standing committees and boards of General Conference not otherwise provided for.

3. Expenses of fraternal delegates appointed by General Conference.

4. Travelling expenses of delegates to General Conference.

5. Other necessary expenses incident to the meeting of General Conference.

6. Payment of General Conference indebtedness.

III. *Income.*

365. The General Conference Fund shall be raised by the apportionment of an amount equal to *one per cent. on assessable funds to the several circuits and missions of the several Annual Conferences, upon the

*By resolution (Journal, page 136) the General Conference Special Committee is authorized to increase this assessment, if necessary, to 1½ per cent.

following basis, viz., the amounts raised for ministerial support and the following connexional funds: Missionary (General), Superannuation or Supernumerary, General Conference, Contingent, Educational, and General Sunday-school Funds; and at the May District Meeting it shall be the duty of the Financial Secretary to collect the amount from each circuit and mission, and remit the same in the usual way to the Treasurer of this fund.

IV. *Management.*

366. The management of this fund shall be vested in the General Conference Board of Finance.

V. *Audit.*

367. The Board shall provide for a careful audit, by competent persons, of the accounts of the fund, and shall publish the certificate of said auditors in connection with annual and other statements.

II. THE CHURCH AND PARSONAGE AID FUND.

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

368. The fund shall be known as "The Church and Parsonage Aid Fund of the Methodist Church"; nevertheless, this shall not be construed as interfering with the vested rights of any Annual Conference Church and Parsonage Aid Fund.

II. *Object.*

369. The object of the fund shall be to aid in the erection of churches and parsonages, on sites held in trust by our Model Deed, on the stations, circuits or missions of the Methodist Church, and the reduction of debts upon the same, by means of loans at low rates of interest, on such conditions as will secure the earliest possible extinction of all liabilities upon the property aided.

III. *Management.*

370. The management of the fund shall be vested in the General Conference Board of Finance.

POWERS OF THE BOARD.

The board shall have authority:

1. To make loans to trustee boards of churches or parsonages, in harmony with the objects set forth in the constitution and the general regulations hereinafter mentioned.

2. To receive bequests, legacies, contributions, and moneys on deposit at low rates of interest for the purposes of the fund.

3. To institute proceedings, when necessary, to foreclose mortgages and recover loans or interest when due.

4. To sell, assign, or otherwise dispose of mortgages and securities.

5. To employ such assistance as it may deem necessary for the correct keeping of the accounts and the

prompt and accurate transaction of the business connected with the fund.

6. To fill any vacancy that may occur in the board or among its officers during the quadrennium.

7. And generally to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of the constitution and the general objects of the fund.

IV. *Capital.*

371. The capital of the fund shall consist of:

1. Moneys or securities now belonging to the Church and Parsonage Aid Fund for the Northwest.

2. Moneys or securities now belonging to any Church or Parsonage Aid Fund in any of the Annual Conferences, subject to the consent of said Conferences.

3. Legacies or donations that have been or hereafter shall be made for the objects contemplated by the fund.

4. Moneys received on deposit.

5. Moneys received from collections, which shall be taken in all the congregations of the Church in the month of October in each year.

V. *Application of Revenue.*

372. Revenues arising from interest on loans and other sources shall be applied:

1. To the payment of interest on deposits.

2. To the payment of necessary expenses of management.

3. The balance, if any, shall be carried to a sinking fund for the repayment of deposits.

NOTE.—Interest from loans of the Aylesworth legacy goes to the Missionary Fund, according to the terms of the bequest.

VI. *Reports.*

373. The Board shall publish an Annual Statement for the information of the Conferences and the connexion generally, and they shall present to the General Conference a quadrennial report covering the business of the four preceding years, and showing the condition of the fund at the close of the last financial year.

VII. *Audit.*

374. The board shall provide a careful audit, by competent persons, of the accounts of the fund; and shall publish the certificate of said auditors in connection with the annual statement.

VIII. *Regulations.*

375. The following regulations shall be observed in regard to loans:

1. No officer or director connected with the fund shall in any circumstances be a borrower from the fund.

2. The fund shall be used for loan purposes only, and no free grants in any circumstances shall be made.

3. No loan shall exceed fifty per cent. of the estimated actual cash value of the property concerned.

4. Loans shall be made on security of first mortgage on connexional property held under our Model Deed, with assignment of insurance policy for amount equal to the loan, and the personal obligation of the trustees as collateral. Where circumstances render it necessary the directors may accept the personal obligation of the trustees in lieu of a mortgage, in which case the trustees shall give a bond for a mortgage as soon as a deed is secured; or the directors in their discretion, and in extreme cases, may exempt the trustees from giving their personal obligations as collateral.

5. All applications for loans in the Northwest must be endorsed by a Superintendent of Missions, in addition to the Quarterly Board, the Superintendent of the Circuit, and the Chairman of the District; but in territories where there is no Superintendent of Missions, applications for loans must be endorsed by the Quarterly Board, the Superintendent of the Circuit, and the Chairman of the District.

6. In order to secure greater expedition and efficiency in the administration and helpfulness of this fund, the Superintendent of Missions of the Conference concerned, under circumstances of urgency, shall be empowered to make advances in order to acquire sites for churches and parsonages, such advances to be secured in the ordinary way, and also to authorize loans from the fund to aid in the erection of churches and parsonages where, in his judgment, it may be proper and advisable.

7. It shall be a distinct condition of each loan that the property is not otherwise encumbered, and that no

other encumbrance shall be put upon it without the consent of the directors, in writing, first obtained.

8. Loans may be made repayable, if judged expedient, by annual or semi-annual instalments, covering both principal and interest.

9. Interest on loans shall not exceed six per cent. per annum, and shall be payable half-yearly.

10. The directors shall not be at liberty to relinquish or modify the claims of the fund on either principal or interest of loans.

11. Persons who may bequeath or donate to the fund the sum of \$1,000 or upward shall be at liberty to fix the rate of interest at which such sum shall be loaned (provided the rate be not higher than that fixed by the regulations concerning loans); and also shall be at liberty to specify such other conditions as may seem to them desirable, provided they do not contravene the purpose for which the fund is established. When any such donation is accepted by the directors it shall be carried to a distinct and separate account, which shall bear such name as the donor may desire, and shall so appear in the annual statements of the fund.

SECTION VIII.

LADIES' AID SOCIETIES.

CIRCUIT SOCIETIES.

376. 1. Superintendents of circuits and missions may organize Ladies' Aid Societies where desirable.

2. The purpose of such societies shall be the raising of funds for local church purposes; also assisting in the visitation of the congregation, especially the sick and strangers, and such other service as the society may consider in the interests of the church.

377. The officer shall be a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as the society may deem necessary. The officers shall be elected annually.

DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE SOCIETIES.

378. 1. The Ladies' Aid Societies within any District or Annual Conference may organize a District or Conference Ladies' Aid Society.

2. The purpose of such societies shall be to strengthen the work of the Circuit Ladies' Aid Society, and to aid any enterprise which the society may consider in the interests of the church.

3. Each District or Conference Ladies' Aid Society shall have a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary. The officers shall hold office until their successors are appointed.

SECTION IX.

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

379. This Society shall be known as "The Missionary Society of the Methodist Church."

II. *Object.*

380. The object of the society is the support and enlargement of the Home and Foreign Missions which are carried on under the direction of the General Board of Missions and the Conferences of the Methodist Church.

III. *Members.*

381. The membership of the Church should recognize that every true Christian Church is a Missionary Society, each member of which is under solemn covenant to the Head of the Church to help in the fulfilment of the commission to give the Gospel to every creature. Every member of the Methodist Church is therefore a member of the Missionary Society. Every other person who contributes five dollars or more to the funds of the Missionary Society shall also be a member of the Society. Every person who contributes five dollars or more and every one who collects annually ten dollars or more for the society shall be entitled to a copy of the Annual Report.

IV. *Auxiliary and Branch Societies.*

382. The Methodist Missionary Societies within the bounds of any Annual Conference collectively shall be entitled "The Auxiliary Missionary Society" of that Conference, and severally shall be entitled "Branch Societies" of such Auxiliary. Every Sunday school shall be a branch of the Conference Auxiliary. Epworth Leagues or other young people's associations

may form Missionary Societies among their members as branches of the Conference Auxiliary, and students in colleges may organize as elsewhere provided.

V. *Treasurers on Circuits or Missions.*

383. The Superintendent of a circuit or mission shall be Treasurer of the branch society or societies of his circuit or mission; but the Missionary Committee of the circuit or mission, at the request of the Superintendent and on his nomination, may appoint a local Missionary Treasurer.

VI. *Remittances.*

384. 1. The missionary money raised on any circuit or mission included in the work of the Home Department shall be transmitted, as soon as collected, direct to the General Treasurer of the Society at Toronto by post-office order, express order or bank order, deducting only what has been disbursed for necessary local expenses. Remittances shall be made as above monthly if possible, or at least quarterly, or whenever fifty dollars shall have been collected; the final balance shall be forwarded as soon as the collections are completed, which shall be not later than the Annual District Meeting.

2. The missionary money raised on any circuit or mission included in the work of the Foreign Department shall be transmitted, as soon as collected, to the Chairman of the District, deducting only what has been disbursed for incidental and local expenses; and the District Chairman shall remit promptly to the General

Treasurer through the Conference Treasurer, or, if there be no Conference Treasurer, direct to the General Treasurer.

VII. *Circuit Lists.*

385. The Superintendent of each circuit or mission shall prepare annually, not later than the first day of the Annual District Meeting, a list of all subscribers of five dollars and upward, also the aggregate of all collections and sums under five dollars; such lists to be sent without delay to the Mission Rooms, together with a statement of the gross receipts, local disbursements and remittances, duly signed and certified correct. A copy of all subscriptions on the circuit or mission, and a copy of the statement sent to the Mission Rooms, shall be kept by the Superintendent for reference and for the information of subscribers.

VIII. *The General Board.*

386. 1. There shall be a General Board for the management of the Missionary Fund and the affairs of the Missionary Society, which shall meet at least annually, at such time and place as it may appoint.

2. The General Board shall be composed of (a) the General Superintendent, and the officers of the society; (b) six ministers and six laymen elected by the General Conference, who shall hold office for four years, and who shall be elected as follows: The delegates to General Conference from each Annual Conference meeting separately shall each nominate not more than two min-

isters and two laymen, and additional nominations may be made from the floor of the Conference, and the members of the General Board shall be elected by ballot from these nominations; (c) one minister and one layman from within the jurisdiction of each Annual Conference, to be elected by a joint vote of ministers and laymen, and who shall also hold office for four years. The Assistant or Field Secretaries, the Superintendents of Missions and the Deputy Treasurer, shall be entitled to sit as corresponding members of the Board. When a ministerial member of the Board elected by an Annual Conference is transferred to another Conference, he shall cease to be a member of the Board.

3. The Mission Council of each Foreign Mission shall have the right to elect one of its members as a representative to the General Board as often as this can be done without incurring the necessity of a journey home for that purpose, or at any time when the General Board or Executive Committee shall authorize such action.

4. The work of the society shall be divided into two departments, the Home Department and the Foreign Department.

5. *The duties and powers of the Board shall be to determine and allot from time to time to the two departments of the society the work included in each; review the missionary field of the Church at home

*The General Conference of 1914 authorized such changes in the Discipline as will facilitate the transference of the Indian work in all the Conferences from the Foreign Department to the Home Department, should such a change be deemed advisable by the Board.

and abroad; apportion and grant the missionary funds to the various objects, missions, Conferences, and departments of the work, as in the judgment of the Board will best promote the missionary work of the Church, including always in their apportionments a sum not exceeding 20 per cent. of the missionary contributions of the Sunday schools as a grant to the Woman's Missionary Society; select through its responsible officers, after consultation and agreement with Annual Conference authorities, missionaries for the Indian and French work, and for the Chinese and Japanese work in Canada, and fix annually the salaries and other allowances for the same; select and appoint missionaries for the foreign fields, and fix a scale of salaries and other allowances for missionaries on such foreign fields—all scales to be subject to revision by the General Board at any of the annual sessions; grant furloughs to the missionaries in the foreign field when deemed expedient, or recall them permanently if considered necessary; decide when and where new missions may be opened among the French, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, or non-English-speaking Europeans in Canada, and in the foreign fields; regulate and control the support of missionaries on Home Missions when proposed to be undertaken by any church, circuit or District; select and appoint teachers for mission schools, and fix their salaries; select and appoint principals for the various Indian or other institutes, and fix their salaries; make suitable and adequate provision for opening communication with Methodists intending to emigrate to

Canada, for meeting immigrants on arrival and furnishing them with helpful and sympathetic information, and for introducing them by letter to ministers at the points where they intend to reside; make appropriations of missionary money to supplement the salaries of men and women who are engaged in teaching school among foreigners; co-operate with and facilitate the development of the Laymen's Missionary Movement; direct and oversee the work of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions; take such steps as may be judged expedient to raise and increase the missionary income; pledge, hypothecate or mortgage the property under the control of the Board, when found necessary, as security for moneys obtained from banks or other sources; and in general oversee and control the mission work of the Church in so far as this is not provided for in the constitution and powers of the Annual Conferences. The action of the Board in all matters within its jurisdiction shall be final.

6. The General Board of Missions is authorized to appoint a committee to act with similar committees of other Churches for the purpose of considering co-operation on Home Mission fields. The work of this committee shall be: (1) To define the policy to be followed in regard to comity and co-operation, and (2) to adjudicate upon special cases which may be referred to the Committee, where fields may be organized or re-arranged to prevent overlapping.

7. If any elected member of the General Board become an *ex officio* or corresponding member of the

Board, or if any elected member of the Board be absent from two consecutive annual meetings, a vacancy is thereby created.

8. Vacancies among General Conference representatives shall be filled by the General Board or the Executive Committee; vacancies among Annual Conference representatives by the Conference or its Special Committee. When a ministerial member of the Board, elected by an Annual Conference, is transferred to another Conference, he shall cease to be a member of the Board.

9. In the event of the death or disability of any of the officers of the society, the Executive Committee shall appoint a suitable person to fill the vacancy till the next meeting of the General Board, when such appointment may be confirmed or changed pending the meeting of the next General Conference.

IX. *Executive Committee.*

387. 1. A committee, to be called the Executive Committee, shall be annually appointed by the General Board, consisting of the General Superintendent, the officers of the society, the Assistant or Field Secretaries, and eighteen other members—nine ministers and nine laymen—a majority of whom shall be members of the General Board. This committee shall meet at the call of the General Secretaries to consider and decide any matters referred to it by the General Board; review correspondence from the mission field; consider and decide special claims or other accounts; fill vacancies

among General Conference representatives on the General Board, or among its own members; and provide, *ad interim*, for any exigencies that may arise between sessions of the General Board, and for all the purposes aforesaid the Executive Committee shall have the powers of the General Board. All the proceedings of the Committee shall be entered in a minute book and reported to the General Board at its next annual meeting.

2. The Executive Committee also shall have authority to suspend any officer of the society for incompetence or for culpable neglect of the duties of his office, and supply his place until the next meeting of the General Board, which shall have authority to fill the vacancy till the next General Conference.

3. The Executive Committee, as to its elective members, shall be elected by the General Board in the following manner: Ten persons (five ministers and five laymen), members of the General Board, shall be chosen by ballot, and eight others (four ministers and four laymen), one or more of whom may also be members of the General Board, shall be elected from a nomination of eight ministers and eight laymen by a committee consisting of the General Superintendent, the General Secretaries, and two others, one to be chosen from the Maritime Conferences and one from the Western Conferences.

X. Other Committees.

I. LOCAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

388. The Executive Committee shall have power to appoint a Local Sub-Committee, which shall meet regu-

larly and transact such business as may be referred to it or determined by the General Board or its Executive Committee; and such other business as in the judgment of the General Secretaries, or either of them, should not be delayed until the next meeting of the General Board or the Executive Committee.

II. DISTRICT MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

389. At the Annual District Meeting each District shall appoint a District Missionary Committee, composed of ministers and laymen, who shall co-operate with the Chairman of the District and the Standing Missionary Committee of the Conference in the development of District missionary campaigns and other forms of organized missionary cultivation among the circuits and missions of the District. A District Missionary Secretary also shall be appointed, who shall act as Secretary of the District Missionary Committee, and who shall be the ministerial representative of the District on the Annual Conference Missionary Committee. It shall be his duty, in co-operation with the Chairman of the District, to organize and develop the missionary support of the District by such methods as may be recommended from time to time by the General Board of Missions or the officers of the Society.

III. ANNUAL CONFERENCE MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

390. 1. The Annual Conference Missionary Committee shall consist of a minister and a layman from each District. The ministerial representative shall be the

District Missionary Secretary. The lay representative shall be elected at the Annual District Meeting. Members of the Conference Standing Missionary Committee who are members of the Annual Conference shall be *ex officio* members of the Annual Conference Missionary Committee.

2. It shall be the duty of this Committee to receive and consider the report and recommendations of the Annual Conference Standing Missionary Committee, to pass in review the missionary work of the Conference during the year, and to consider any matter referred to it by the Annual Conference in session.

IV. CONFERENCE STANDING MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

391. There shall be in each Annual Conference a Standing Missionary Committee, composed as follows:

1. The General Superintendent, the officers of the Missionary Society, and of the General Board, the President of the Conference, the members of the General Board of Missions within the Conference, the Superintendents of Missions, the Superintendent of Indian Schools (if there be Indian Schools in the Conference), a minister and a layman from each City Mission Board within the Conference elected by the said Board, three ministers and five laymen elected by the Annual Conference on the nomination of the Annual Conference Missionary Committee.

2. Meetings of the Committee may be called by the Superintendent of Missions or the President of the Conference. The committee shall appoint its officers, and

the General Superintendent, if present, shall preside. The Chairman of each District, immediately after holding the Financial District Meeting, shall forward one schedule of the recommended grants to the Mission Rooms and the other to the Secretary of the Conference Standing Missionary Committee. It shall be the duty of the Standing Missionary Committee to review such recommended grants, and to forward to the Mission Rooms for the use of the General Board its views and recommendations, accompanied by reasons for changes when changes are proposed.

3. The General Secretary of the department of the Missionary Society concerned shall send to the Conference Standing Missionary Committee, as soon as possible after the meeting of the General Board, a detailed statement of the appropriations made by the General Board of Missions for all mission work within the Conference. The Conference Standing Missionary Committee shall have power to readjust the same as occasion may require, and shall report all readjustments to the department concerned, and make annually a detailed statement to the General Board.

4. This Committee, if possible before the close of each Conference year, shall notify the General Secretary of the Home Department relative to the additional number of men who will be required to supply the mission fields in its Conference, during the ensuing Conference year.

5. This Committee shall be responsible for missionary education and the promotion of missionary giving

within the boundaries of the Conference. It shall co-operate with the District Missionary Committees in carrying out plans for the development of missionary support.

6. It also shall be the duty of this committee to negotiate and conclude arrangements with other denominations with the view to prevent overlapping in circuit and mission work in harmony with the policy of the Methodist Church.

7. This Committee may appoint a small committee or committees in conjunction with the Superintendent of Missions, at central points in each Conference, to deal with any matter that may arise in connection with the progress and development of our missionary work.

8. This committee shall prepare a report of its work, both of administration and cultivation, together with a review of missionary conditions within the Conference, and an outline plan of missionary cultivation for the ensuing year. This report, with such recommendations as the committee may choose to make shall be presented to the Annual Conference through the Annual Conference Missionary Committee.

XI. *Young People's Forward Movement for Missions.*

392. 1. The object of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions shall be to stimulate the interest of the young people of the Church in and secure their support for the mission work of the society by (a) distribution of missionary literature; (b) the holding of District and Conference Conventions, and schools for

the study of the Bible and missions, in co-operation with District and Conference Epworth League and Sunday School officers and the ministers of the District.

2. The work of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions shall be carried on by the Secretary thereof, under the direction of the General Board, and in consultation with the General Secretaries.

3. The Secretary of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions shall report from time to time to the General Board and the Executive Committee.

XII. *Annual Meeting.*

393. An Annual Public Meeting of members and friends of the society shall be held at the time and place appointed by the General Board, when an abstract of the Annual Report shall be presented, and such religious services held as may be deemed expedient.

XIII. *General Officers and their Duties.*

394. 1. The officers of the society shall be the General Superintendent, who shall preside, and the following, who shall be elected by the General Conference: Two General Secretaries, of equal authority; an Honorary Lay Treasurer, and the Secretary of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions.

2. The officers of the Board, appointed by the Board, shall be two Assistant or Field Secretaries, the Superintendents of Missions, a Superintendent of Indian Institutes, Boarding Schools and Day Schools, and a Deputy Treasurer, the latter on the nomination of the Lay Treasurer.

3. The General Secretaries shall be the administrative officers of the society, and shall carry forward the work thereof under the direction of the General Board. The General Secretaries, in consultation with and under the direction of the General Board or Executive Committee, shall arrange the work between them as circumstances may demand. The General Secretary in charge of the work of the Home Department, previous to each Financial District Meeting, shall furnish each Chairman of District with a schedule to be filled up by said Chairman at the Financial District Meeting, showing the estimated income and expenditure of each mission for the support of the ministers and preachers, the amount of missionary grant recommended by the Financial District Meeting, etc., etc., which schedule shall be forwarded to the General Secretary without delay. From these schedules he shall prepare a tabulated statement for the information of the General Board, in order that its members may intelligently and justly apportion the funds of the society to the several Conferences and other parts of the work. On receipt of a statement from the Annual Conference Missionary Committee relative to the additional number of men that will be required to supply our mission fields, he shall take such special action as may be necessary to meet the need. The General Secretaries shall publish the Annual General Report of the society, with a statement of the income and expenditure to be furnished by the Treasurer.

4. The duties of the Assistant or Field Secretaries shall be to assist the General Secretaries in their work.

5. The duties of the Treasurer shall be to keep an accurate and detailed account of income and expenditure, and to produce for the Auditor, appointed by the Board, the circuit certificates of collections, the vouchers for other items of income, and the authority of the Board for disbursements, and vouchers for the same. A copy of the minutes of the General Board or Executive Committee, certified by the chairman or secretary thereof, shall be authority for payments. He shall prepare the financial statement for publication in the Annual Report of the society.

6. In the discharge of their duties the officers of the society shall act in harmony with the legally appointed courts and officers of the General and Annual Conferences. In the event of an emergency that may require prompt action in the matter of supplying any remote mission, it shall be competent for said officers, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, to request the proper authorities of any Annual Conference to aid them in meeting such emergency by allowing one of its ministers or probationers to proceed to such mission.

XIV. *Regulations respecting Home Missions.*

395. 1. The allowance of a missionary shall be understood as including all the items of a minister's support, such as salary, board, fuel, and ordinary travelling expenses, but not house-rent, horse-keep or hire, removal expenses, taxes or other necessary incidentals (\$150 to be allowed for horse-keep, but in case

of horse-hire the actual expenses allowed shall not exceed \$150).

2. The minimum salaries of ministers and probationers for the ministry on domestic missions shall be the same as those of ministers and probationers for the ministry on self-supporting circuits as set forth in Paragraph 260 of Discipline.

3. When grants to Home Missions are determined finally the proper authorities at once shall furnish an official statement of such grants to the District Chairman concerned, who, without delay, shall notify the Superintendents of the Home Missions within his District. The Superintendents at once shall notify their Official Boards, so that steps may be taken, if necessary, to raise such additional amounts as may be required to pay at least the minimum allowance above indicated.

4. The responsibility for providing the minimum allowance agreed upon rests primarily with the people of the mission, and not upon the Missionary Board. Grants from the General Fund are designed to aid, for a time, those fields wherein, owing to the limited numbers and scanty means of the membership, the people are unable to support their own minister.

5. The General Board may notify the President of an Annual Conference or the Chairman of a District, when deemed necessary and advisable, that grants to a particular mission shall cease, or be continued on a diminishing scale to terminate within a certain period. When such notice is given, the President or Chairman shall notify the Quarterly Official Board of the mission

in question, so that steps may be taken at once to meet the changed conditions.

6. The Executive Committee of the General Board may arrange with Annual Conference authorities for a commission of one or two persons to visit, as far as practicable or necessary, the Home Missions of the said Conference, with a view to such adjustment or readjustment of the work as shall increase the number of independent fields and secure better support for our home missionaries. The commission shall report, in writing, to the Annual District Meeting and Conference and the Board of Missions; and the Executive Committee may recommend, at its discretion, a sliding scale of grants with a view to the missions becoming independent circuits; and shall provide, in its discretion, for the necessary travelling expenses of such commission.

XV. Superintendents of Missions.

396. 1. The General Board of Missions shall appoint such Local Superintendents of Missions (hereinafter designated Superintendents) as the needs of the work shall require.

2. Each Superintendent shall be elected by the General Board, which shall have authority to fix their salaries and travelling or other expenses, to fill vacancies, and to make changes when found necessary or advisable. The General Secretary of the Home Department shall be, *ex officio*, Superintendent of Missions in Conferences where no Superintendent has been appointed by the General Board of Missions.

3. Each Superintendent shall be, *ex officio*, a member of the Stationing Committee of the Conference or Conferences which have jurisdiction over his field and of the Special Committee of the same.

4. Each Superintendent shall (a) give special attention to all fields providing less than the minimum salary; (b) give special attention to the development and organization of the work on new ground; (c) form new missions where considered necessary; (d) readjust existing missions when, in his judgment, this will tend to self-support; (e) organize Quarterly and Trustee Boards on new fields when practicable, such work to be reported to the ensuing Annual District Meeting and Annual Conference of the territory in which such organization takes place; (f) preside in the absence of the Superintendent of the circuit or mission at meetings of the Quarterly or Trustee Boards of circuits or missions on which probationers or supplies are stationed; (g) secure sites for churches and parsonages; (h) advise respecting the erection of necessary buildings; and (i) promote or assist in evangelistic work, and in all practicable ways aid in the extension and consolidation of the work in their respective territories.

5. Each Superintendent shall report at frequent intervals to the General Secretary having charge of the work of the Home Department, and shall carry on the work under his direction.

XVI. *Indian and Other Missions.*

397. 1. The Indian work, aided by grants from the Government, and the Japanese and Chinese work shall be entirely under the direction of the General Board of Missions.

2. The General Board shall have exclusive authority:

(1) To appoint, upon the nomination of the General Secretary in charge of the work of the Foreign Department, a Superintendent of Asiatic Missions in Canada, who shall oversee and direct the work among the Chinese and Japanese in British Columbia, collect and forward to the Mission Rooms all amounts of money due from these missions, and report to the General Secretary from time to time on the condition and needs of the work. He may associate with himself, on the approval of the General Secretary, an Asiatic Advisory Committee, resident within the Province in which his work lies.

(2) To designate the number and extent of missions in Japanese and Chinese work, and the number and character of the laborers to be employed thereon.

(3) To submit to the Stationing Committee of the Annual Conferences each year a list of proposed stations and appointments thereto in the Japanese, Chinese and Indian work—the confirmation of such stations and appointments to be with the Annual Conferences according to Discipline.

(4) To recommend to the Annual Conferences concerned the names of suitable candidates for work among the Indians, Japanese, and Chinese to be received as probationers for missionary work, and for ordination for

such work. This provision shall apply also to candidates for work among non-English-speaking Europeans in Canada. Whenever practicable, this shall be done through the usual channels of Quarterly and District Meetings.

(5) To appoint, upon the nomination of the General Secretary in charge of the work of the Department concerned, a Superintendent of Indian Institutes, Boarding Schools, Day Schools and Hospitals. The duties of such Superintendent shall be:

(a) To exercise supervision and authority over the several institutes and boarding schools and other institutions in connection with the Indian Mission work, in respect of the support of which the Church receives grants of money from the Government, visiting each of them at least once a year and conducting a thorough inspection of the same. This inspection shall include a careful examination of the property and plant, an audit of the accounts, a review of the methods of conducting the institution, the securing of pupils, and all matters connected with the carrying on of the work. He shall give such attention to the inspection of the day schools as may be necessary to secure the efficient carrying on of the same. He shall collect and tabulate statistics, showing the work in which pupils engage after leaving the institutes; what proportion of them remain permanently in employment; how many return to the Indian life on the reservation, and such other information as bears upon the Indian problem and its relation to the Church.

(b) To nominate for appointment by the Board or Executive Committee, if in his judgment the local circumstances call for it, a local advisory Board for each or any institute or boarding school.

(c) Under the direction of the General Secretary of the department concerned, to carry on the correspondence and negotiations with the Indian Department. He shall report to the General Secretary of the department concerned from time to time relative to the work and needs of the hospitals on Indian Missions.

3. All the evangelistic work among the Indians, as distinct from the educational work—that is to say, all the Indian work conducted wholly without aid from the Government—shall bear the same relation to the several Conferences in which it is situated as that sustained by the domestic missions.

4. Whenever in our Indian Mission work evangelistic and educational work is carried on by one and the same agent, his relation to the Conference or the Board shall be determined by the fact of the work receiving Government aid.

5. If a grant of a site for mission buildings be desired in connection with the evangelistic work, or if any other matters arise in the evangelistic work involving communication with the Government or its agent, such communication shall be made only through the General Secretary in charge of the work of the Department concerned.

6. The Superintendent of Indian institutes, boarding schools and day schools shall perform the duties above

designated under the direction of the General Secretary in charge of the work of the department concerned, and he shall report at frequent intervals to the General Secretary.

7. Ordained ministers of the Japan Methodist Church who may be appointed by the General Board of Missions to work among the Japanese in Canada shall enjoy the rights and privileges of membership in the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church, Canada, within which their work is carried on.

XVIII. *Lay Missionaries.*

398. 1. The employment of lay missionaries shall rest with the General Board, which shall have authority to institute all necessary enquiries, prescribe a preliminary course of study, and provide for all necessary examinations.

2. Lay missionaries duly appointed to China and Japan shall have equal rank with the other missionaries in the field, and their salaries shall be computed on the same scale. They shall be members of the Mission Council, having a voice and a vote in all its business, except as hereinafter provided.

3. Lay missionaries shall be members of the District Meeting or Mission Council, as the case may be, within the bounds of which they are laboring, and the same questions shall be asked respecting them as are asked concerning other missionaries, excepting those which pertain strictly to the pastoral office, such as recommend-

ing probationers for the ministry, their continuance on trial, ordination, or the like.

4. Lay missionaries who are or shall become probationers for the ministry shall pursue the Course of Study prescribed in the Discipline, and shall be subject to the same regulations as other probationers. If deemed expedient the General Board may prescribe a special Course of Study for lay missionaries who are not probationers for the ministry.

5. No lay missionary shall be received as a probationer for the ministry by any Annual Conference or be ordained for special purposes except by the request of the General Board or the Executive Committee.

6. Each medical missionary shall prepare and forward to the Mission Rooms, through the Mission Council or Annual District Meeting, a report of his work, whether hospital, dispensary or general practice, showing number and character of cases treated, and any other information that may help the Board to understand the extent and value of the medical work as an adjunct to evangelistic effort.

7. It is expected that all lay missionaries shall keep constantly in view the spiritual needs of those with whom they come in contact, and lose no opportunity of offering Christ for their acceptance.

8. The years of service of lay missionaries after admission to probation for the ministry shall be accepted *pro tanto* in lieu of the years of probation required in the regular work, provided they pass the prescribed course of study.

9. The General Board shall be empowered to constitute a superannuation system for lay missionaries in foreign fields.

10. During the ensuing quadrennium the General Board shall have power to adopt, if necessary, additional regulations respecting lay missionaries and their work not inconsistent with the foregoing regulations.

XIX. *Foreign Missions.*

I. OBJECT.

399. The object of the Foreign Missions of the Methodist Church is to extend the Kingdom of God by evangelizing the non-Christian peoples and raising up as speedily as possible self-supporting, self-propagating and self-governing Churches.

II. MISSION COUNCIL.

General Regulations.

400. The missionaries sent by the Methodist Church to any foreign field, when not less than five in number, shall constitute a Mission Council, with powers and duties as hereinafter defined. (The term "missionary" shall be interpreted to mean all appointees of the General Board, whether lay or ministerial, to the foreign field.) The Council, except as hereinafter defined in the special regulations for China, shall be composed of all the missionaries, and shall meet together at least once a year for mutual consultation respecting the inter-

ests of the work on the various fields comprised in the Mission. If deemed expedient the General Board shall have power to subdivide any foreign field into two or more distinct fields, with separate Councils, and to adopt such measures as shall serve to co-ordinate the entire work. When there are less than five missionaries in the field those employed therein may act as a committee to make recommendations, but shall not possess the powers of a Council. The Council shall be subject to such regulations as the General Board of Missions may from time to time adopt, provided the same may be not *ultra vires* of the powers conferred upon the Board by the Discipline of the Church. Subject to this general restriction, the Council shall have authority:

1. To elect annually a Chairman, who shall preside at the annual and all special meetings of the Mission Council during the year. In the absence of the Chairman, the Council may elect a Chairman *pro tem*.

2. To elect annually a Secretary, who shall keep a record of the proceedings and decisions of the Council. He shall forward a copy of the same, through the General Secretary, to the General Board. The minutes of the Council Executive shall be forwarded by its Secretary in the same way.

3. To appoint a Council Executive Committee, which shall be representative, as far as possible, of the field and work as a whole, and shall deal with any matters arising in the intervals of Council meetings. This Executive shall have power to appoint a Local Sub-Committee to deal with such matters as may be committed to it. On

the recommendation of the Council Executive, or its Local Sub-Committee, the Chairman of the Council shall call a special meeting of the Council.

4. To designate the particular field of each foreign missionary and to appoint or reappoint him thereto. The department of work may be designated by the General Board. In such cases the Mission Council may recommend to the General Board the transfer of any missionary from one department of the work to another. Where there is no organized District Meeting or Annual Conference, the Mission Council shall station the native preachers and other workers.

5. To regulate all matters relating to the property of the society, in harmony with the directions of the General Board; also to specify the appropriations of any funds granted by the Board when these have not been appropriated in detail; and, further, in emergency cases to apply the unused balance of the total appropriations for the current year in the purchase of property specially desirable for mission purposes.

6. To review the work of each year, revise reports from all parts of the field, prepare and revise estimates for the coming year, and make such recommendations to the General Board from time to time as may be deemed expedient.

7. To prepare and forward to the General Board, at least annually, a full report of the work under the various departments, and any recommendations touching the same which the Council deems it expedient to make.

8. To meet in joint session, at least once in the year,

with the Council of the Woman's Missionary Society, for consultation on matters of common interest, with the view of promoting harmony and co-operation between the agents of the two societies in the prosecution of their work. If any question should arise in regard to which a majority of either Council cannot agree with the other, it shall be referred to the Home Boards for final decision, subject to the provision of Par. 408, sec. 5, of the Discipline. The Executives of the two Councils shall meet in joint session when deemed necessary. A copy of the minutes of all joint sessions of the two Councils, or their executives, shall be forwarded promptly to the Mission Rooms.

9. To examine the character and work of each missionary, and report annually to the General Board of Missions.

401. Each foreign missionary shall send in a quarterly report of his work to the General Secretary. He shall present an annual report also to the Council, which report may furnish a basis for the Council's recommendations to the Board.

402. All instructions or orders from the General Board to individual missionaries, if communicated directly to them, shall be communicated also to the Corresponding Secretary, to be laid by him before the Council or its members, for information and not for review.

Special Regulations for China.

403. 1. The Mission Council shall plan for the work of each foreign missionary, assigning to each a

definite centre of operation, with freedom within limits prescribed by the Council to plan and develop the work; but the Council or its missionaries shall not multiply fields or agents involving increased expenditure without the consent of the General Board or its Executive Committee.

2. The Mission Council, through its ministerial members only, shall have power to examine, receive on probation, elect to full connexion, and ordain candidates for the Chinese ministry.

3. The Mission Council shall outline a course of study and term of probation suitable to the conditions of the work and field.

4. The Mission Council composed of all the missionaries, shall meet once each quadrennium; in each of the other years of the quadrennium, the Council shall be composed of representatives elected by the members of the mission, one from each local committee, two additional from Chengtu Station, and one additional from Chungking Station. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be a member of Council *ex officio*.

Special Regulations for Japan.

404. 1. The Mission Council shall consult, when deemed necessary or advisable on matters of common interest, with the "Kantoku" (General Superintendent) of the Japan Methodist Church, with the view of maintaining the fullest confidence and harmony between the native and foreign workers.

2. The Mission Council shall plan for the evangelistic work of the foreign missionaries, assigning to each a definite centre of operation, with freedom within limits prescribed by the Council to plan and develop their work; yet not so as to interfere with the disciplinary duties and powers of native pastors or Chairmen of Districts; provided always that the Council or missionaries shall not multiply fields or agents involving increased expenditure without the consent of the General Board or its Executive Committee. The missionary shall direct the laborers raised up under his own care until the fields can be brought under the care and responsibility of the Annual Conference of the Japan Methodist Church.

3. Each foreign missionary working in Japan shall be authorized to accept the rights and privileges of the Conference of the Japan Methodist Church in harmony with the Basis of Union and the General Conference action of the Japan Methodist Church in 1907.

III. THE MISSION TREASURER AND CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

405. 1. The General Board of Missions shall appoint for each Foreign Mission a Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary, who shall take charge of all funds sent from the Mission Board, rent of mission property, if any, and of all income derived by the missionaries in connection with their work outside their regular salaries, as specified in Par. 405, sec. 3. Unless otherwise provided by the General Board, he shall be respon-

sible for the keeping of the books, and make all necessary reports connected therewith; disburse the money in his possession in accordance with the appropriations authorized by the General Board or its Executive Committee, and subject solely to their authority; transmit annually to the Mission Rooms a detailed and audited statement of the accounts of the mission for the preceding year, and also the estimates of the Mission Council for the ensuing year.

2. As Corresponding Secretary of the Board he shall keep in touch with the work in the various stations and report fully to the Board concerning his work as Treasurer, and shall forward a copy of the minutes of the Mission Council or its executive, with explanatory statements. He shall lay promptly before the Council and its members all official communications from the Board or the Mission Rooms, and discharge such other duties as the Board may from time to time direct. He shall be, *ex officio*, a member of the Council Executive Committee.

3. Each missionary, ministerial or lay, who is in receipt of a salary from the Missionary Fund shall keep an accurate account of income from all sources, such as medical, dental and school fees, literature sales, Book Room and press receipts. All receipts and expenditures shall be reported regularly to the Mission Treasurer, who shall include these in the annual financial statement from the missions; the receipts from all sources shall be the property of the Missionary Society.

4. In the case of death or disability of the Treasurer, the Council, or its executive, shall designate one of the

other missionaries as Treasurer *pro tem.*, pending final action by the Board. The mission may at any time recommend one of its members for appointment as Treasurer by the General Board.

IV. MISSION DISTRICT MEETINGS.

406. The constitution and powers of the District Meeting shall be the same as those of the ordinary District, so far as they can be adapted to conditions in the foreign field.

V. MISSION CONFERENCES.

407. 1. When there are fifteen or more ordained ministers on the field, and the General Board or the Executive Committee recommends the step, the missions shall be erected into a Mission Conference, with power to divide into two or more Districts.

2. The constitution of the Mission Conference shall be the same as that of the ordinary Annual Conference, with the following limitations:

(1) The Conference shall not interfere in any way with the administration of the General Board of Missions, nor with the powers and duties of the Mission Council as elsewhere defined.

(2) To meet peculiar conditions of the work in Japan the Stationing Committee may appoint a Japanese pastor to the same field for five consecutive years; but any extension beyond this term shall be only by a three-fourths vote of the Stationing Committee, and in no case shall the term exceed seven years.

(3) When a missionary who has been transferred to a Mission Conference in the foreign field returns permanently to the home work, he shall be received and stationed by the Conference from which he was sent out. Nevertheless, it shall be competent for the General Superintendent to arrange for his transfer into some other home Conference when the circumstances, in his opinion, justify such a course.

(4) It shall be the duty of the Japanese or Chinese Annual Conferences, Chairmen of Districts, and pastors to co-operate in all possible ways with the missionaries and the Superintendent of the Mission.

(5) The lay members of the Annual and Financial District Meetings shall be elected at the fourth meeting of the Quarterly Official Board.

(6) A Mission Conference, in order to meet the needs of the work, shall have power to specially ordain candidates and receive them into full connexion without their having passed the regular Course of Study for ministers, provided they meet the following conditions: (*a*) They shall have served successfully as lay evangelists for a term of not less than six years; (*b*) they shall have spent, in addition to the above, at least three years on probation; (*c*) they shall have passed satisfactory examinations on the special course of study elsewhere provided; (*d*) the Ministerial Conference shall decide by a two-thirds majority as to the need of the step and as to the suitability of the candidates.

3. Foreign missionaries shall have, *ex officio*, all the rights and privileges in Mission Conferences which they

have or had in the Home Conferences to which they belong; and shall be amenable to the Mission Conference for their conduct. With the concurrence of the Mission Council, the Stationing Committee of the Conference may appoint foreign missionaries to its own work.

XX. *Woman's Missionary Society.*

408. 1. For the more successful prosecution of the missionary work of the Church among women, there shall be an organization, known as "The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church," to be governed and regulated by its constitution, which may be altered or amended by the General Conference if so required by the necessities of the work.

2. The society shall work in harmony with the authorities of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, and be subject to their approval in the employment and remuneration of missionaries or other agents, the designation of fields of labor, and in general plans and designs of work. The executives of the two societies shall confer on the request of either.

3. The funds of the society shall be raised by collections in meetings convened in the interests of Woman's Missionary work, by securing memberships and life memberships, and by any other plans of collection arranged by the society, but always in such manner as not to prejudice the other funds of the Church. The society shall receive also a sum not exceeding 20 per cent. of the amounts contributed to the General Missionary Fund by the Sunday schools.

4. All funds raised for the society shall be reported by the minister in charge to the Annual Conference, and be entered in a column among the benevolent collections in the Annual Minutes.

5. In foreign fields plans for new work by the Woman's Missionary Society or its Council, before being finally decided, shall be laid before the Mission Council of the General Society and receive its approval.

409. Propositions for new developments or modifications of the work of the Woman's Missionary Society, by any member of the Mission Council of the General Board, must have the approval first of said Council, and afterwards be sent officially to the Council of the Woman's Missionary Society for its approval or otherwise.

410. The Mission Council of the Woman's Missionary Society shall meet in joint session with the Council of the General Missionary Society at least once in the year, for consultation in regard to matters of common interest, with the view of promoting harmony and co-operation between the agents of both societies.

XXI. *Collegiate Missionary Society.*

411. 1. Students of any of our colleges may organize themselves into a society in affiliation with the Missionary Society, under the title of Auxiliary Missionary Societies, and they shall be known, respectively, as "The Students' Auxiliary Missionary Society of College."

2. For the purposes of the society as above they shall have power to frame a constitution not inconsistent with the constitution of the Missionary Society.

3. Each society shall work in harmony with the authorities of the Missionary Society; and if at any time any such society should decide to send a missionary or missionaries to a foreign field, it shall be with the concurrence of the General Board of Missions.

4. Each society shall report, year by year, its income and expenditure to the General Board of Missions.

XXII. *Associations for City Mission and Church Extension Work.*

412. 1. Each Annual Conference may establish in cities where it is thought desirable Boards for carrying on, in co-operation with the District authorities, city mission and church extension work, or either.

2. Such Boards shall be composed of the ministers in the active work located where a Board may be formed, and a layman from each church desiring to co-operate. A Board thus constituted shall have power to elect such additional members as they may deem desirable or necessary.

3. Each Board shall have power to pass by-laws not contrary to any statute affecting the Methodist Church, and not contrary to the Discipline of the Methodist Church, or any amendment thereto, for the purpose of regulating the management of the affairs of the Board.

4. Each Board shall have power to provide for the election of a Board of Directors and the election or appointment of such officers and committees as may be deemed necessary according to the by-laws.

5. Each Board shall have power to appeal annually to the Methodist churches of the city in which it is formed for funds to carry on its work, and with the permission of the Annual Conference may make an appeal for assistance to the Methodist churches of the Conferences interested in or affected by the work of the Board; but such appeals shall be made only with the consent of the Quarterly Official Boards or missions concerned.

6. The General Board of Missions and the Woman's Missionary Society are recommended to take into consideration the needs of the work in any city where such a Board exists, and make such appropriations in aid of the work as may seem to them desirable or necessary.

7. Each Board shall have full control of all funds received by it, and shall keep an accurate account of the receipts and expenditures and report the same to the District Meeting and Conference. Such report shall be printed in the Conference Minutes, and columns shall be provided in circuit schedules to cover both city mission and Church extension work.

8. The work of the Board may include all departments of mission work, such as evangelistic work among English-speaking and foreign nationalities, kindergarten work, the employment of deaconesses, and other various forms of educational and benevolent work. Such Boards

shall have power within the Conference in which they are formed to give financial assistance by way of loan or gift to new or weak churches, to establish new churches and secure sites for new churches (subject to Disciplinary regulations), and to promote the organization of Sunday schools and preaching services where regular churches are not established.

9. Such a Board may acquire, by purchase, gift, leasing or otherwise, any lands, buildings or personal effects required for the purposes of the Board, mortgage and hold or dispose of the same at its discretion, receive bequests, donations and subscriptions, and apply the same for the purposes of the Board, and establish and maintain a Loan Fund for the purpose of assisting churches within the limits of the Conference in which the Board is formed. All property acquired by the Board shall be held by it in trust for the purposes for which such Board is or may be constituted in accordance with the statutes affecting the same, and in accordance with the Discipline of the Methodist Church, and such amendments of the said Discipline as may be made from time to time.

10. The Board of Directors shall have the general management of the business of the Board and shall be elected from among the members of the Board, provided that the General Superintendent of the Methodist Church, the President of the Annual Conference, the Secretary of the Home Department of the Missionary Society, and the Chairman or Chairmen of the Districts in which the Board is formed, shall be, *ex officio*, mem-

bers of the Board of Directors. The number of the Directors and the manner of their election shall be as provided in the by-laws of the Board.

11. In the case of missionaries working under local City Mission Boards the time limit of the itinerancy shall not apply, but the Stationing Committee of the Annual Conference may make appointments from year to year upon the request of the Board concerned.

SECTION X.

GENERAL BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

GENERAL CONFERENCE BOARD.

I. Composition.

413. There shall be a General Board of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies, which shall consist of:

(a) The General Secretary; the Assistant Secretary; the Field Secretaries; the Treasurer; the Editor of the Sunday School Periodicals and his assistant; the Secretary of the Young People's Forward Movement for Missions; and one representative appointed annually by the Woman's Missionary Society, who shall elect also an alternate.

(b) There shall be one minister and one layman from each Annual Conference, to be appointed by the

Annual Conference delegation attending General Conference, one for the quadrennium and the other (who shall be Conference Secretary of Religious Education) for this year until his successor is elected by the ensuing Annual Conference. Each Conference delegation shall also appoint one alternate, who shall act in the absence of either representative.

II. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE GENERAL BOARD.

414. 1. It shall be the duty of the General Board to promote, especially through the organization and development of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies, the religious education of all the people. The General Board shall, therefore, aim to:

(a) Develop in the mind and heart of the Church as a whole a sincere sense of responsibility for every phase of religious education.

(b) Unify the purpose, and as far as possible the programme, of religious education throughout the entire Church.

(c) Provide appropriate courses of study through which all, but especially the young, may be instructed and trained in Christian character and service.

(d) Definite standards and tests whereby the work of the churches and their progress in religious education may be determined.

(e) Devise and direct plans and methods of organization and work in the local churches that tend to the greatest measure of efficiency.

(f) Employ a secretarial staff capable of meeting the legitimate claims for general leadership that logically come from the Annual Conferences.

(g) Supply through the local churches a body of trained teachers and skilled leaders sufficiently numerous to carry on the work of religious education through the coming years.

2. Vacancies occurring from any cause among the representatives on the Board shall be filled by the Annual Conference affected thereby.

3. The General Board shall meet annually, at such time and place as the General Superintendent and the General Secretary may decide.

III. *Officers.*

415. The officers of the Board shall consist of the General Superintendent, who shall be chairman; the General Secretary; the Assistant Secretary; the Field Secretaries, and the Treasurer.

IV. *Executive Committee.*

416. There shall be an Executive Committee, which shall be composed of the General Superintendent, the General Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Field Secretaries when present, the Treasurer, the Editor of the Sunday School Periodicals or his assistant, the representatives of Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, and Montreal Conferences. This Committee shall meet semi-annually or oftener, if in the judgment of the General Secretary the needs of the work demand it.

V. *General Secretary.*

417. There shall be a General Secretary of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies. He shall be elected by the General Conference, and shall perform the usual duties of secretary, be the medium of communication between the General Board and all parts of the field, and shall have supervision of all the work in making effective the policy of the Board throughout the whole connexion. There shall be also an Assistant Secretary, whose duties shall be defined by the General Board.

VI. *Field Secretaries.*

418. The Field Secretaries shall be appointed annually by the Board. They shall be under the direction of the General Secretary, and shall co-operate with him in carrying forward the work as outlined by the Board from time to time.

VII. *Lesson Committee.*

419. There shall be a Lesson Committee of the General Board, consisting of the General Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Editor of the Sunday School Periodicals or his assistant, and five or more other persons appointed by the Board, who may or may not be members of the Board. On nomination of the Lesson Committee a member of the General Board shall be elected by that Board as representative of the Methodist Church on the International Sunday School Lesson Committee.

VIII. *The Treasurer.*

420. The Treasurer, who shall be elected quadrennially by the General Board at its first meeting after General Conference, shall receive all offerings and other funds belonging to the Board, pay the same out on the order of the Board or its Executive, and prepare a statement for each annual meeting of the Board, and a quadrennial report for the General Conference.

IX. *Finance.*

421. 1. The revenue of the General Board shall be derived from the following sources:

(a) A minimum of two per cent. of the amount contributed by the circuit or mission to ministerial support shall be its objective for this fund. Each Conference shall set an objective in proportion to the whole budget of the Board, and allocate the same to the Districts, who in turn shall allocate its apportionment to each circuit at the first District Meeting of the Conference year.

(b) The last Sunday in September of each year, or the nearest convenient date thereto, shall be observed by all Sunday schools as Rally Day. The General Board, through its Education Section, shall provide a special Rally Day service for use in all Sunday schools. On this day each school shall give a special offering for the Fund. The full amount thus contributed shall be remitted forthwith to the General Treasurer.

(c) The first meeting in November of each year, or the nearest convenient date thereto, shall be observed by all young people's societies as Young People's Rally Day. Each Epworth League and other young people's organization on this occasion, in addition to its regular or special programme, shall take up a special offering for the Fund. This offering shall be remitted forthwith to the General Treasurer.

(d) Other ways and means which the Board from time to time may devise, such as envelope offerings in the public congregations on Rally Day or other occasions.

2. Superintendents of circuits and missions shall see that the offerings for the Fund are duly taken up and forwarded as above directed.

3. Moneys contributed other than above by any Sunday school, congregation or young people's society shall be duly paid by the Superintendent of the circuit to the Financial Secretary of the district in the same manner as the other connexional funds and shall be transmitted by him to the Annual Conference Treasurer of the Fund, who in turn shall forward the amounts to the General Treasurer of the Board of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies.

4. The salary and expenses of the General Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Field Secretaries shall be paid out of the revenues under the control of the Board.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE WORK OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

I. *Standing Committee.*

422. There shall be in each Annual Conference a Standing Committee for the control and promotion of all the work of religious education within its bounds as outlined in the following regulations.

II. *Composition of Committee.*

423. The Annual Conference Committee on Religious Education shall consist as follows:

(a) Secretaries of the General Board; (b) Conference Representatives on the General Board; (c) District Secretaries of Religious Education; (d) a lay member elected by each Annual District Meeting; (e) advisory members—(1) the presiding officers of such Conference organizations as are recognized and approved by the Conference Standing Committee on Religious Education; (2) Presidents of District Conventions.

III. *Officers of Committee.*

424. The officers of the Committee shall consist of a chairman, a secretary, and a treasurer, whose appointment and duties shall be as follows:

1. *Chairman.*—He shall be elected by the Committee from among its members, as prescribed in the Order of Business, and shall continue in office until his successor is appointed.

His duties shall be (1) to preside at all meetings of the Committee; (2) to sign the Committee's report for

presentation to the Annual Conference; (3) to co-operate with the Secretary in carrying into practical effect the directions of the Annual Conference for the work of religious education within its bounds throughout the year.

2. *Secretary*.—He shall be elected by the Committee from among its members, as prescribed in the Order of Business, and shall continue in office until his successor is appointed.

His duties shall be (1) to convene the Committee for organization at the Annual Conference; (2) to keep a permanent record of all official proceedings of the Committee's meetings; (3) to sign and present to the Annual Conference the Committee's report; (4) to send a copy of each district schedule on religious education to the General Secretary as soon as Conference is over; (5) to send to the General Secretary a copy of the Committee's report as adopted by the Annual Conference; (6) to co-operate with the chairman of the Committee in carrying into effect the direction of the Annual Conference concerning the work of religious education within its bounds for the ensuing year; (7) to co-operate with the General Secretary in making effective the connexional policy of the General Board; (8) to give to his successor in office the records of the Committee and the latest statistical data of the Conference that he has in his possession.

3. *Treasurer*.—He shall be nominated by the Committee from among its members, as prescribed in the Order of Business, and shall be elected by the Confer-

ence, and shall continue in office until his successor is appointed.

His duties shall be (1) to receive from the Financial Secretaries all money contributed by the various circuits and Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies for the General Sunday School and Young People's Societies Fund, and to forward the same, with a detailed statement, according to Districts, to the General Treasurer as early as possible; (2) to receive and hold in trust for the Committee (a) all surplus money in possession of the District Secretaries at the close of the year; (b) the collection taken at the public anniversary meeting held in connection with the Annual Conference; (c) any other contributions that may be received from any source for the promotion of the work of religious education by the Annual Conference Religious Education Committee; (3) to pay all accounts that may be so ordered by the Committee; (4) to present annually a detailed financial report to the Committee as prescribed in the Order of Business—this report shall constitute a part of the Committee's report to the Annual Conference; (5) to give to his successor in office the Treasurer's book, with all money on hand at the time of the change of officers.

IV. *Time of Meeting of Committee.*

425. This Committee shall meet at least one full day previous to the opening of the Ministerial Session of Conference at the call of the Secretary.

V. The Business of the Committee.

426. 1. The Committee shall have in charge and under its direction all matters pertaining to the work of religious education within the bounds of the Conference, in harmony with the policy of the General Board and in co-operation with the General Secretary in carrying the same into practical effect.

2. It shall review the work of religious education of the Conference for the past year, and report thereon to the Annual Conference according to the following order of business:

If the Chairman is absent, the Secretary shall preside over the Committee until the third item of business has been transacted, when the Chairman-elect shall preside.

(1) Devotional exercises.

(2) Roll-call of members.

(3) Election of Chairman and Secretary by ballot.

(4) Reports of District Secretaries of Religious Education.

(5) Appointment of sub-committees to tabulate the statistical section of the Committee's report to Conference.

(6) Recommendations, memorials, etc., from Districts in order.

(7) Additional recommendations, memorials, etc., which may have been forwarded to the Committee by the Conference.

(8) Reference of these, when necessary, to sub-committees for consideration and report to the whole Committee at some later meeting.

(9) Financial statements of the District Secretaries of Religious Education in writing, showing the cost of the work of religious education in each District during the year, including the expenses incurred in conventions, institutes, schools, visitations, or any other way in which the Secretary has endeavored to perform the work of the District. Also the amounts of collection and any other income that may have been received. The report to show surplus, deficit, etc.

(10) Report of the Treasurer for the year.

(11) Reports of the sub-committees.

(12) Miscellaneous business.

(13) Election by ballot of the Conference Secretary of Religious Education.

(14) Nomination of the Treasurer of the Committee.

(15) Consideration and adoption of the Committee's report as a whole to be presented to the Annual Conference.

(16) Direction regarding plans of work for the ensuing year.

VI. *Annual Conference Meeting.*

427. There shall be a public meeting in the interests of religious education held in connection with the Annual Conference, for which arrangements shall be made by the Programme Committee of the Conference

in consultation with the Conference Secretary of Religious Education.

A collection shall be taken at this meeting to be used by the Annual Conference Religious Education Committee in forwarding its work.

In any Conference or District, with the approval and co-operation of the Conference Standing Committee on Religious Education, conventions or conferences may be held covering such departments of work as Epworth Leagues, boys' work, girls' work, teacher training, religious educational leadership, summer schools, etc.

DISTRICT WORK OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

428. *The District Secretary.*—There shall be a District Secretary of Religious Education on each District.

(a) He shall be a ministerial member of the District.

(b) He shall be appointed yearly at the Annual Conference on the nomination of the Conference Committee on Religious Education.

(c) His name shall be printed in the list of stations in the Minutes of Conference, as "Religious Education Secretary," following the name of the Financial Secretary.

(d) He shall be the ministerial member of the Annual Conference Religious Education Committee of the ensuing Annual Conference.

(e) It is expected that each District Religious Education Secretary shall through the year assume the oversight and direction of religious education in his District by (1) carrying out the recommendations of the

Religious Education Committee of the Annual Conference; (2) co-operating with the General Secretary and the Field Secretaries as they may be concerned in promoting the policy of the General Board in every way practicable; (3) arranging for a convention or, preferably, a series of institutes, on his District through the year as may be deemed most advisable.

(f) He shall receive the circuit Sunday School and Young People's Societies schedules from the Circuit Superintendent as early as possible in May, and shall tabulate the same in the District schedules as the official statistical report of the Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies for the Annual District Meeting; he shall present this report with his recommendations concerning the work of religious education on the District to the Annual District Meeting when the laymen are present; he shall report to the Annual District Meeting the names of all schools and Young People's Societies that have not observed the Disciplinary provisions relating to the financial support of the General Board; he shall forward to the General Secretary, immediately at the close of the Annual District Meeting, the full and complete list of circuit Sunday School and Young People's Societies' schedules for the District; he shall give to his successor in office the District record book properly written up.

(g) The expenses of the religious education work of the District shall be met by an offering taken at the Religious Education conventions and institutes.

(h) The first District Meeting in each Conference year, at the request of the District Secretary of Religious

Education, shall appoint District Superintendents of various departments, as follows:

1. Superintendent of General Sunday School Efficiency.

2. Superintendent of Elementary Grades of the Sunday School.

3. Superintendent of Intermediate and Senior Boys' Work.

4. Superintendent of Intermediate and Senior Girls' Work.

5. Superintendent of Young People's Department.

6. Superintendent of Adult Work in the Sunday School and Church.

7. Superintendent of Missionary Work, who shall be the Missionary Secretary of the District.

The duties of the Superintendents shall be defined in leaflets issued by the General Board.

429. Other Regulations.—These officers, with the Secretary of Religious Education, the District Chairman, and President of District Epworth League, shall compose an Executive Committee to advise and assist the Secretary in his work throughout the year. This Committee shall be called by the Secretary at his discretion during the year.

Each Annual District Meeting shall elect one layman by ballot to the Annual Conference Religious Education Committee.

Each Chairman of a District shall call for the report of the Religious Education Secretary of the District when the laymen are present, said report to pass under

careful review and to be forwarded with the recommendations of the District Meeting thereon, to the Annual Conference.

District (religious education) conventions and institutes shall be arranged for, to consider the advancement of the work of the Sunday School, Young People's Societies, senior boys' and senior girls' work, as the needs of the District may require and the District Council of Religious Education shall advise.

On Districts where Officers' Council and Institutes are impracticable, the District Secretary shall promote the work throughout the District by correspondence.

LOCAL STANDING COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

430. 1. There shall be a Standing Committee on Religious Education in each congregation, consisting of the minister, the Sunday School Superintendent, the President of the Epworth League or other Young People's Society approved by the Quarterly Official Board, the President of the Woman's Missionary Auxiliary, and two other persons appointed by the Official Board at its last quarterly meeting each year.

Duties.—The duty of the Committee shall be to act as an Advisory Council on all matters which concern the religious educational work of the Church. This Committee shall meet quarterly at the call of the minister and shall report in writing to the next meeting of the Official Board, making such recommendations as its judgment suggests for the promotion of the work.

It shall especially seek to secure :

(1) A deepened interest in religious education by the whole community.

(2) The co-operation of every member of the congregation in the educational activities of the Church. For this the Committee may advise whatever means seems best for its own people, but the following are suggested as generally applicable: An annual survey of the homes of the community with a view to securing the largest possible measure of religious education for all the family through family worship and instruction, regular church attendance, membership in the Sunday school, and a place in the activities of the Church.

(3) A unified church programme of religious education in which provision shall be made for the graded instruction, training and service of all the people.

(4) To secure suitable and sufficient organization to make effective the programme thus adopted.

LOCAL SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

431. For the thorough organization and government of the Sunday schools of the Methodist Church the following directions are given :

1. It shall be the duty of every Superintendent of a circuit or mission to see that, as far as possible, there is a Sunday school in connection with each congregation under his charge, such school to be organized and maintained in accordance with the Standard hereinafter mentioned.

2. In organizing a new school the Superintendent of the circuit or mission, with the concurrence of the Quar-

terly Official Board, shall appoint a suitable person to superintend the same; and the person so appointed, with the concurrence of the Superintendent of the circuit or mission, shall appoint the necessary officers and teachers, and proceed to organize the school in harmony with the following Constitution governing local Sunday schools:

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

432. This school shall be known as the..... Methodist Sunday school, and shall be under the supervision of the Quarterly Official Board of the Circuit or Mission.

II. *Purpose.*

433. 1. To win every available member of the community to the Sunday school.

2. To win the members of the Sunday school to Christ and the Church.

3. To train them for intelligent and effective Christian life and service.

III. *Board of Management.*

434. The control of each Sunday school on a circuit or mission shall be vested in a Board of Management consisting of the minister or ministers in charge, the officers and teachers of the school, and not less than three nor more than five other persons, members of the church, nominated at the first meeting of the Quar-

terly Official Board and elected by such Board for each school on the circuit or mission. The persons so elected shall be notified at once by the Recording Steward and shall enter upon their duties forthwith.

IV. *Duties of the Board of Management.*

435. The duties of the Board of Management shall be: (1) To keep a record, through an annual house-to-house visitation or other means, of all the members of the community eligible for school membership, with a view to enlisting as many of them as possible; (2) To realize the purpose of the Sunday school as outlined in the Standard hereinafter set forth.

V. *Meetings of the Board of Management.*

436. 1. Meetings of the Board of Management shall be held monthly in cities and towns and at least quarterly in villages and rural communities.

2. Special meetings of the Board of Management may be called at any time by the Secretary at the request of the Superintendent of the circuit or the Superintendent of the school. Due notice of the nature of the business to be transacted, together with the time and place of meeting, shall be given to each member of the Board. No other than the special business thus named shall be transacted at special meetings.

3. It is recommended that notice of both special and regular meetings of the Board of Management be given to each member in writing and that set days be agreed upon for the regular meeting.

VI. *Order of Business at Board Meetings.*

437. The order of business at the meetings of the Board of Management shall be as follows:

1. Devotional exercises.
2. Calling the roll.
3. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
4. Reports of Superintendent, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Superintendents of Divisions and Departments, Presidents of Organized Adult Bible Classes, Missionary Secretary, Temperance Secretary, Grading Officer, Committees, Special Meetings, etc.
5. Unfinished business.
6. Confirming of interim appointments or annual elections.
7. New business.
8. Closing exercises.

VII. *Officers and Teachers.*

438. The officers of the school, in addition to the Superintendent, may include an Associate or Assistant Superintendent or Superintendents, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Organist or Musical Director, with assistants to each, Superintendents of each of the ten departments named in the Standard of Efficiency, Presidents of organized Young People's and Adult Bible Classes, Missionary Secretary, Temperance Secretary, and Grading Officer; or as many of these as it may be in the interests of the school to appoint. It is recommended that an assistant teacher be associated with each regular teacher of the school.

VIII. *Elections.*

439. The Board of Management, at its regular meeting nearest the first of May, at which the Superintendent of the circuit or mission shall preside, shall annually elect all the officers and teachers of the school for a period of one year, the elections to be conducted as follows:

1. *The Superintendent.*—The Superintendent of the school shall be elected by ballot, without nomination, a majority of the votes cast being necessary to election. No person shall be eligible for the office of Superintendent who is not a member of the Methodist Church.

2. *Officers.*—The Superintendent of the school shall nominate one or more persons for each of the other offices of the school, with the exception of Presidents of organized classes (who are to be elected by their respective classes), and the Board of Management shall elect by ballot. In the election of the visitors of the Home Department the Superintendent of the school may nominate such persons as may be recommended by the Superintendent of that Department.

3. *Teachers.*—The teachers and their assistants shall be elected by the Board of Management on the nomination of the Superintendent of the school.

4. Vacancies that may occur in the list of officers and teachers, or among the visitors of the Home Department shall be filled from time to time by the Superintendent of the school, subject to the approval of the ensuing meeting of the Board of Management.

5. The Board of Management may modify its methods in certain instances in the nomination of teachers, but, notwithstanding, shall retain its full right always to the nomination and election of its officers and teachers as herein provided.

IX. *Installation.*

440. It is recommended that an installation service of officers and teachers be held in connection with one of the public services of the church, as soon after the annual elections as may be conveniently arranged. It is recommended that the Installation Service prepared by the General Board be used on this occasion.

X. *Duties of Superintendent of Circuit, Officers and Teachers.*

441. 1. *The Minister.*—The Superintendent of the circuit shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the annual meeting of the Board of Management and a member of all the committees of the Sunday school. It shall be his special duty to encourage a course of training for present and prospective teachers; to ensure some special evangelistic campaign, by Decision Day or otherwise, during the year; to see that opportunity is given, particularly to the senior pupils of the school, to offer themselves for definite Christian service, such as the ministry, missionary work, deaconess work, or nursing. He shall co-operate with the Superintendent of the school and other members of the Board of Management in attaining the Standard for local Sunday schools as hereinafter pro-

vided. He shall call for the report of the Superintendent of the school at the regular meetings of the Quarterly Official Board, and shall send to the District Sunday School Secretary, immediately after the fourth Quarterly Meeting, the Sunday school circuit schedule.

2. *The Superintendent.*—The Superintendent of the school shall be a member of the Quarterly Official Board. He shall preside at the meetings of the Board of Management other than the annual meeting. He shall be, *ex officio*, a member of all Sunday school committees. With the aid of Associate or Assistant Superintendent or Superintendents he shall prepare and take charge of the programme of the regular school session. He shall present a report concerning the work of the school to the regular meetings of the Quarterly Official Board. He shall cause the annual schedule of his school to be filled up, and shall present the same to the fourth meeting of the Quarterly Official Board. He shall see that regular Disciplinary meetings of the Board of Management are held, and shall encourage attendance at conventions, institutes and summer schools, and so co-operate with the minister and the other officers and teachers of the school as shall make most largely for the realization of its purpose and standard.

3. *Associate or Assistant Superintendents.*—It shall be the duty of the Associate or Assistant Superintendent or Superintendents to co-operate with the Superintendent of the school in all school activities, preside over or assist in the programme of the school session when called upon, and do such work as may be assigned

by the Superintendent of the school and the Board of Management.

4. *Secretary*.—It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record the minutes of the regular and special meetings of the Board of Management, to keep a systematic record of the school in all its phases and activities from week to week, by means of an approved record system, and to do such general duties of a secretary as may be outlined by the Board of Management.

5. *Treasurer*.—It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep a correct record of the moneys received and paid out by him as ordered by the Board of Management, and, when called upon, to present a financial statement.

6. *Librarian*.—It shall be the duty of the Librarian to receive and distribute the books of the school library, to keep in touch with the Methodist Book and Publishing Houses concerning the latest and best books, and to study the characteristics and needs of the respective grades of the school, so that by selecting books adapted to each grade, the library may help in the realization of the purpose for which the school stands.

7. *Assistants*.—It shall be the duty of each assistant to the Secretary, Treasurer or Librarian to co-operate in the work of the office as may be determined by the Board of Management, and as far as practicable to train for efficient service in the offices to which they may be assigned.

8. *Department Superintendents*.—The duties of the Superintendents of the several Departments set forth

in the Standard of Efficiency shall be to supervise and make efficient the organization and work of these respective Departments in accordance with the standards adopted and set forth by the General Board.

9. *Cradle Roll Superintendent*.—It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of the Cradle Roll to enroll all the infants and little children of the congregation, under four years of age, upon the Cradle Roll, and to carry forward the work of this Department according to the plans contained in the official leaflet of the General Board.

10. *Organized Bible Class President*.—The duties of the President of an Organized Bible Class shall be such as are outlined in the official Bible Class standards for such classes, as set forth in the printed leaflets of the General Board.

11. *Home Department*.—It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of the Home Department to interest all who cannot attend the regular sessions of the school in the daily study of the Sunday-school lessons and in the practice of family worship.

12. *Teacher Training Superintendent*.—It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Teacher-training to organize classes to meet, either during the Sunday-school hour or at some other time, to take up a systematic course of Teacher-training, such classes to be composed of either present or prospective teachers, or both, and to be conducted in accordance with the plans of the General Board.

13. *Missionary Secretary*.—It shall be the duty of the Missionary Secretary (or Committee) to create a missionary atmosphere in the school by means of prayer, education, systematic giving to missions, and providing opportunities, particularly to pupils of the Senior Grade, to choose some line of Christian service; all in accordance with the Missionary Standard for Sunday schools as adopted by the General Board.

14. *Temperance Secretary*.—It shall be the duty of the Temperance Secretary, through temperance programmes, literature, pledge-signing, and other means, to educate the members of the school in the principles of temperance and prohibition, personal purity and good citizenship, in harmony with the official leaflet issued by the General Board.

15. *Grading Officer*.—It shall be the duty of the Grading Officer of the school, in co-operation with the Superintendent and the Board of Management, to arrange a satisfactory method of grading and promotion on the basis of the grading principles set forth under the Standard of Efficiency.

16. *Teachers*.—It shall be the duty of teachers to attend the school sessions regularly, with the lesson carefully prepared, and in every way to so instruct and lead the members of their classes on Sunday, and, as far as practicable, throughout the week, that they shall be brought into right relation to Christ and into accredited membership in the Church.

17. *Assistant Teachers*.—It shall be the duty of assistant teachers to co-operate with the regular teachers of

the school from time to time in teaching their respective classes, and in promoting, particularly through weekday activities, the general welfare of the pupils.

XI. *The Standard of Efficiency.*

442. Each Sunday school shall strive to measure up to the following standard:—

I. Aims:

1. To win every available member of the community to the Sunday school.
2. To win the members of the Sunday school to Christ and the Church.
3. To train them for intelligent and effective Christian life and service.

II. Means:

1. Regular Disciplinary Meetings of the Board of Management.
2. Cradle Roll and Home Department.
3. Graded Organization and Graded Instruction.
4. Classes of pupils over twelve years of age, organized and registered.
5. Trained Teachers and Officers.
6. Graded Service Activities.
7. Systematic Evangelism.
8. Systematic Missionary Instruction and Giving.
9. Regular Temperance Instruction and Annual Pledge-signing.
10. Rally Day and Disciplinary Offering to the General Sunday School Fund.

Basis of Grading.

The following is the basis of Grading referred to in Point 3 above:

Department.

1. Cradle Roll. Birth to three years.
2. Beginners. Four and five years.
3. Primary. Six to eight years.
4. Junior. Nine to eleven years.
5. Intermediate. Twelve to fourteen years.
6. Senior. Fifteen to seventeen years.
7. Young People. Eighteen to twenty-three years.
8. Adult. Twenty-four years and over.
9. Teacher Training. Young people, adults, and teachers.
10. Home. All who are unable to attend the school.

III. Tests:

The efficiency of a Sunday school is measured by its product. The following tests need constantly to be applied:

1. Is the school making such increase in enrolment and average attendance as may be reasonably expected from a careful survey of its community?
2. Is the knowledge of the Bible growing?
3. Is the devotional life steadily developing?
4. Are the pupils dedicating their lives to Christ and the Church?
5. Are the pupils showing increasing interest and efficiency in Christian service?

6. Is the school providing trained leaders for its own work, for other departments of the local church, and for the wider fields of Christian service?

XII. *Anniversary.*

443. The public Anniversary Meeting of the school shall be held in the month of in each year, when reports of the school as adopted by the Board of Management shall be read, the names of members of the new Board of Management shall be announced, and such other exercises as in the judgment of the Board are expedient shall be presented. Such exercises may well comprise some review of the memory work covered by the pupils during the year, and the promotion from one grade to another of the pupils who are of age and ready therefor. Where the Anniversary is held in May or early in June, the Installation Service, as recommended elsewhere, may be made a feature of the programme.

XIII. *Settlement of Difficulties.*

444. Should any difficulty arise in connection with the school which the Board of Management cannot satisfactorily adjust, the Superintendent of the Circuit, the Superintendent of the school, or any three members of the Board of Management, on giving due notice to the Board of Management of their intention, may refer the matter under dispute to the next meeting of the Quarterly Official Board of the circuit, whose decision shall be final in every case.

EPWORTH LEAGUES.

445. GENERAL EPWORTH LEAGUE CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

For the purpose of promoting intelligent and vital piety among the young people of the Methodist Church, training them in active Christian work, and promoting the study of the Bible and Christian literature, there shall be an organization under the authority of the General Conference, governed by the following Constitution:

NAME.

1. The name of the organization shall be "The Epworth League of the Methodist Church."

OBJECTS.

2. The objects shall be to unite the young people in Christian fellowship and service; increase their spirituality by edification in Scripture truth and by prayer; instruct them in Methodist doctrine and Church history; enlist their co-operation in missionary activities through existing denominational organizations, and stimulate and interest them in the formation and development of Leagues.

CONTROL.

3. The control of the general society shall be vested in the General Board of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies.

The General Epworth League shall be the recognized parent society, of which local Leagues shall be branches.

AFFILIATION.

4. Any Christian Endeavor Society whose President is a member of the Methodist Church and approved of by the Quarterly Official Board may become affiliated with the Epworth League by adopting the name "Epworth League of Christian Endeavor," and any Epworth League may

become affiliated with the Society of Christian Endeavor by adopting as a local name, "Epworth League of Christian Endeavor."

REPRESENTATION ON QUARTERLY OFFICIAL BOARDS.

5. The Presidents of all Epworth Leagues and Epworth Leagues of Christian Endeavor, on being approved by the Quarterly Official Boards, shall become members of the same, and shall so continue as long as they remain in this office.

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS.

6. An Epworth League Convention may be held annually in each District.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES.

7. Each District Convention shall elect a representative to the Annual Conference Convention as a member of its Executive Committee.

CONFERENCE CONVENTIONS.

8. The members of Epworth Leagues within the boundaries of any Conference may organize and hold a Convention of Epworth Leagues and other Methodist Young People's Societies once in two years.

QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION.

9. Under the direction of the General Board of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies there may be held each quadrennium a Young People's Convention for the whole of the Church.

NOTE.—The Constitutions of the Annual Conference Epworth League, The District Epworth League, The Local Epworth League, and The Junior Epworth League are printed in pamphlet form, and may be obtained on application to The General Secretary of Sunday Schools and Young Peoples' Societies.

SECTION XI.

THE SUPERANNUATION FUND.

PREAMBLE.—*Explanatory.*

The present Superannuation Fund of the Methodist Church is the result of the amalgamation by authority of the General Conference of 1918, of the Superannuation Fund which embraced the Toronto, London, Hamilton, Bay of Quinte, Montreal, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia Conferences, and the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund which embraced the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island and the Newfoundland Conferences. Terms of amalgamation were agreed upon by authorized representatives of the two funds, and these are embodied in the present constitution and regulations of the fund.

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

446. The name of this fund shall be "The Superannuation Fund of the Methodist Church."

II. *Object.*

447. The object of this fund shall be to assist in the support of superannuated ministers, ministers' widows, and children of deceased ministers, as hereinafter provided.

III. *Membership.*

448. All ministers and probationers for the ministry of the Methodist Church shall be members of the fund, except—

1. Those who are given a supernumerary relation.
2. Those who are located.
3. Those who have commuted their claims.
4. Those whose claims have expired by limitation.
5. Those who are native ministers in foreign fields and in Oriental work in Canada.

IV. *Management.*

449. The fund shall be managed by a Board composed of the Secretary-Treasurer, the Lay Treasurer, and a minister and layman from each Annual Conference included in the fund. Each layman must be a member of the Church.

450. The delegates to the General Conference from each of the Annual Conferences shall meet during the sessions of General Conference to elect the aforesaid members of the Board of Management.

451. The General Superintendent shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the Board; but if the General Superintendent be not present, the Board shall elect one of its own members as chairman. It shall elect its own secretary. In case of the death, resignation, transfer or disqualification of a member of the Board during the quadrennium, his position on the Board shall become vacant and the Annual Conference affected is authorized to fill the vacancy. In the case of the death, resigna-

tion, or disqualification of an officer of the Board during the quadrennium, the Board is authorized to fill the vacancy.

452. The Board shall meet once a year at least. It shall have full authority to determine, according to the constitution, by-laws, and regulations of the fund, the status, annuity and allowance of all claimants, the amount to be allowed in commutation of each claim, to make such special appropriations as are permitted by the constitution, and to consider and determine all matters connected with the administration of the fund.

453. An Executive Committee, consisting of the Treasurers and eight other persons, shall be appointed by and from the Board. Of these one minister and one layman shall be chosen from the former constituency of the Supernumerary Fund. Four members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. The Executive Committee shall invest under its general direction all the Permanent and Reserve Funds, and shall have authority to call special meetings of the Board, and when requested shall advise the Treasurers on matters pertaining to the fund, and shall perform such other duties as the Board may decide.

454. Each Annual Conference shall appoint a Conference Committee on the Superannuation Fund, composed of the members of the Board of the Superannuation Fund in the Conference, and five ministers and five laymen in addition. Each Conference Committee shall appoint its own Chairman and Secretary, and it shall be the duty of the Committee to look after the interests of the fund in the Conference, especially to

examine the returns from the several Districts, to ascertain whether due attention has been given on all circuits to secure the necessary income for the fund, and to call the attention of the Conference to any cases of apparent negligence. Each Annual Conference, on the nomination of the Conference Committee, shall elect a Conference Treasurer, who shall keep an account with the Financial Secretaries and make a full report of the returns to the Conference Committee and to the General Treasurers.

V. *Invested Capital.*

455. The invested capital of this fund shall consist of the funds held and reported by the Board as invested or awaiting investment, and of such donations, bequests, and legacies as hereafter may be received by the Board.

VI. *Reserve Fund.*

456. The surpluses in the Annual Fund shall be kept in a separate account and held as a special reserve fund. The principal and interest thereof shall be used to meet any deficiencies that may occur in the Annual Fund. From this fund a sum, not exceeding two thousand dollars in any one year, may be used by the Board for the purpose of relieving cases of distress or emergency not provided for by the regular scale of annuities; and for such other cases as in the judgment of the Board require its special consideration, provided, however, that all such other cases have been recommended by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference.

VII. *Endowment Fund.*

457. We would urge upon all our laymen who have been blessed with an abundance of this world's goods the claims and needs of the fund for endowment purposes, in order that its permanency may be strengthened and that the annuity scale may be materially increased. We would suggest that all our ministers bring this matter to the attention of such of their members as they think would assist in this matter. The Board shall take the necessary steps to press the matter upon the attention of our Church. In order to provide the income necessary for the increased annuities the Board is authorized to raise an additional endowment fund of at least \$1,500,000.

VIII. *Current Income.*

458. The sources of current income shall be the following, viz.:

1. Interest on invested capital.
2. Appropriations from the Book and Publishing Houses.
3. The annual assessments of ministers and probationers for the ministry.
4. Contributions from circuits and domestic missions.
5. Payments by or on behalf of ministers who are not in the regular pastorate, in lieu of circuit contributions.

459. The annual assessment of each minister in the active service of the Church shall be a percentage of his salary, as reported in the Minutes of the previous

year, but in no case shall his assessment be less than \$15 per annum; such percentage to be on the following scale:—\$501 to \$600, 3.1 per cent., and increasing by one-tenth of one per cent. for each \$100 increase in salary. This scale may be increased at the discretion of the Board by a proportion not exceeding twenty per cent., in order to provide the income necessary to meet the increased annuity.

Probationers shall pay three annual assessments of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) each for the period of probation and shall receive therefor credit for three years' standing on their prospective claim. The first two of these assessments shall be paid during the first two years of probation, and the third before being received into full connection.

460. In case a minister is out of the active work for one or more years and returns again to the active work, the basis for his personal assessment to the fund for the first year after resuming active work shall be the salary received during that current year. This shall apply also in the case of a minister who is employed outside the pastorate by permission of his Conference, and who returns again to the pastorate.

461. In case a minister is left without a station at his own request, and afterwards is engaged for at least nine months of the year as a circuit supply in his own or another Conference, the Board shall give credit for the year on his prospective claim, upon the specific request of the Conference, and shall collect an assessment from him in the usual way.

462. The assessments of ministers and circuits shall be paid to the Financial Secretaries, one-half not later than the 1st of December, in each year, and the other half at the Annual District Meeting. All assessments must be paid in full on or before the last day of the Annual District Meeting.

463. Each circuit and domestic mission shall be required to contribute a percentage, based on the minister's salary, as reported in the Minutes of Conference during the previous year, such percentage to be on the following scale:

Up to and including \$500.....	6.0	per cent.
\$501 to \$600.....	6.2	" "
601 " 700.....	6.4	" "
701 " 800.....	6.6	" "
801 " 900.....	6.8	" "
901 " 1,000.....	7.0	" "
1,001 " 1,100.....	7.2	" "
1,101 " 1,200.....	7.4	" "
1,201 " 1,300.....	7.6	" "
1,301 " 1,400.....	7.8	" "
1,401 " 1,500.....	8.0	" "
1,501 " 1,600.....	8.2	" "
1,601 " 1,700.....	8.4	" "
1,701 " 1,800.....	8.6	" "
1,801 " 1,900.....	8.8	" "
1,901 " 2,000.....	9.0	" "
2,001 " 2,100.....	9.2	" "
2,101 " 2,200.....	9.4	" "
2,201 " 2,300.....	9.6	" "
2,301 " 2,400.....	9.8	" "
2,401 and upwards.....	10.0	" "

This scale may be increased at the discretion of the Board by a proportion not exceeding 20 per cent.

in order to provide the income necessary to meet the increased annuity. Provided, however, that the amount for ministerial support shall not be assessed beyond an amount 25 per cent. greater than the amount paid the previous year, but in no case shall the amount paid be less than 50 per cent. of the assessment of the Superannuation Fund Board.

464. In addition to the foregoing percentage, based on ministerial support, each circuit and domestic mission shall be required to contribute a sum equal to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the amount raised and reported to the Conference the previous year for the following connexional funds, viz.: Missionary (general), Superannuation, Education, General Conference, Contingent, and General Sunday-school funds. But in no case shall the amount contributed by any circuit or domestic mission be less than 6 per cent. of the amount raised and reported to the Conference for ministerial support and $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the aforementioned connexional funds; provided, however, that in case the assessment of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the connexional funds should not be sufficient, the Board shall have authority to increase the assessment to 4 per cent.; provided, further, that in no case shall the connexional funds be assessed beyond an amount 25 per cent. in advance of the assessment of the previous year. This scale may be increased at the discretion of the Board by a proportion not exceeding 20 per cent., in order to provide the income necessary to meet the increased annuity.

465. The said assessments may be included in the circuit estimates for the year by the Quarterly Official Board, and may be raised by special subscription or otherwise. If the Quarterly Official Board shall fail to make the necessary provision in this behalf, the Superintendent of the circuit or mission, as it may be, shall have the authority to take collections and subscriptions in the public congregation or congregations necessary to meet the amount payable by the circuit according to the above assessment. The exemption of salary on account of horse keep or hire shall in no case exceed \$150.

466. The Secretary-Treasurer and Lay Treasurer shall notify the Chairman of each District of the amount required from each circuit and domestic mission in his District, which assessment shall be subject to revision by the Financial District Meeting, provided that the District shall be responsible for the total amount charged to it. The Superintendent of a circuit and his colleagues shall be responsible for the full payment of the same to the Financial Secretary.

467. There shall be contributed annually, on behalf of each ordained minister in the active service of the Church who is a member of the fund, and who is appointed to a position outside the regular pastorate, by the society, department, institution or Conference he serves, in lieu of circuit assessment, a sum equal to the amount by which his personal assessment is less than \$90. If the minister be engaged outside the Methodist Church, by permission of his Conference, the full amount of \$90 shall be paid by himself. This law shall

apply to the officers of the General Conference; to the officers of the departments and institutions of the Church; to the principals, professors, teachers, and agents of our educational institutions; to Conference evangelists, except where the evangelist receives no remuneration for his services, and does not expect to become a claimant on the fund; and to all ministers appointed by Conference or by permission of Conference to service outside the pastorate.

468. In case any minister or probationer fails to make any payment required of him under the provisions of the foregoing paragraphs, 459 to 467 inclusive, at the proper time, interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum shall be charged from the first day of July following the close of the Conference year for which the payment was due up to the time of payment; provided, however, that if payment be not made within one year from that date the credit for the year's service shall not be allowed on his prospective claim. Previous to the cancellation of the prospective claim for that year's service, however, the Secretary-Treasurer shall report the matter to and consult with the Chairman of the District and the President of the Annual Conference within which the minister or probationer is stationed. If the offence be repeated, he shall be amenable to the regular procedure of the courts of the Church for non-observance of Discipline.

469. The Missionary Society shall contribute on behalf of each ordained foreign missionary who is a member of the fund, in lieu of circuit contribution, a sum

equal to the amount by which his personal subscription is less than \$90. This shall apply also to each French, Indian or other ordained missionary who is a member of the fund, except home missionaries.

IX. *Claimants.*

470. Claimants shall consist of ministers who are superannuated by an Annual Conference, ministers' widows, and children of deceased ministers, as in each case is hereinafter provided.

471. The initiative in the superannuation of a minister, or in his restoration to the active work, may be taken by himself, by his Annual District Meeting, or by his Annual Conference.

472. Each Annual Conference shall have a Committee on Conference Relations, consisting of the ministerial members of the Superannuation Fund Board in the Conference and seven other ministers appointed by the Conference, to which all cases of superannuation or restoration to the active work shall be referred.

473. No superannuated relation shall be granted by an Annual Conference except on the recommendation of the Committee on Conference Relations, and by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the ministers present. In making the recommendation the said Committee shall not take into consideration anything else than the question, "Is the minister recommended for superannuation, or asking for the same, really worn out or temporarily disabled in the itinerant service?" Provided, however, that in case the committee reports

adversely the Conference, by a vote of not less than three-fourths of the ministers present, may grant a superannuated relation.

474. The said Committee on Conference Relations shall have power to require a medical examination of the minister recommended for or seeking superannuation, by a physician named by itself, who shall make the examination in behalf of the Annual Conference.

475. A minister who is superannuated, or the payment of whose annuity is suspended, or who is restored to the active work, by the regular action of his Annual Conference, shall have no option but to accept the decision of the same.

476. A minister who is superannuated for one year shall return, as a matter of course, to the active work at the end of that term; if, however, a superannuated relation is then recommended by the Annual District Meeting, his case shall go before the Committee on Conference Relations and be dealt with on its merits.

477. A widow whose husband was superannuated at the time of their marriage, and not subsequently restored to the active work, shall have no claims on this fund unless an annuitant at the time of her marriage, in which case the former annuity shall be revived.

478. A widow fifteen or more years younger than her husband, and married to him after he was fifty-five years of age, shall be paid an annuity based upon the number of years she was the wife of the minister during his active service.

479. The widows of all ministers who were superannuated prior to 1883, after having travelled fifteen years or upwards, shall be entitled to the same protection as was granted to their husbands by the Basis of Union.

480. A superannuated minister who is suspended by an Annual Conference shall receive no annuity from the fund for the period of suspension.

X. Computation of Annuities.

481. The computation of annuities shall be based on the number of years spent in the active service of the Church on circuits or missions, or in the interests of any department, society or corporation, by the appointment or permission of the General or an Annual Conference.

482. The period for computing a minister's annuity shall commence from the time of his being received on probation: nevertheless, a year of service rendered under the direction of a Chairman and allowed by a Conference shall be counted, but four years shall be credited on the term of probation prior to the year 1903, and not more than three years thereafter; except in the cases of members of the Supernumerary Fund who have been credited by their Conferences with four years on their probation and with four years' payments of assessments previous to the Conference of 1919, who shall have these years counted in the computation.

483 If a minister has rendered less than twenty-three years' service, and his superannuated relation is

broken into two or more terms, the total number of annual payments to which he shall be entitled shall not exceed his years of service.

484. The period for computing the annuity of a minister or probationer received from another Church shall commence from the time of his reception into our work.

485. The period for computing the annuities of those ministers who failed to "level up," as per the Basis of Union, shall commence with June 1st, 1884.

486. A superannuated minister whose claim has expired by limitation, or who has commuted his claim and is restored to the active service, shall have a subsequent claim only for services rendered after such restoration. The same rule shall apply to located ministers who are restored to active work.

XI. *Scale of Annuities.*

487. A superannuated minister shall receive from the fund an annuity equal to the sum of fifteen dollars per annum for each year of service credited to him in the records of the Board, the annuity to continue for the number of years for which he is so credited. Nevertheless, if he shall be so credited with twenty-three years of service, the annuity shall continue during his natural life; and further, said annuity shall be payable to his widow and children, if beneficiaries of the fund, to the end of the Conference year in which the minister dies; provided in every case that his relation as a superannuated minister be continued.

488. A superannuated minister who, prior to the year 1891 (notwithstanding that he rendered less than twenty-three years' active service), was granted an annuity to continue during his natural life, shall be paid an annuity as provided by the scale of Par. 487, and the same shall continue during his natural life. All claimants upon the Supernumerary Fund at the time of its amalgamation with the Superannuation Fund shall be entitled to whatever protection as to the length of the term of annuity, was afforded them under the Constitution of the Supernumerary Fund at the time of amalgamation.

489. Widows of ministers, remaining such and being members of the Methodist Church, shall receive an annuity equal to two-thirds of the amount their husbands would have received. This annuity shall begin with the Conference year following the minister's death and shall continue during the period of natural life and be payable to the children, if beneficiaries of the fund, to the end of the Conference year in which the widow dies, and in no case shall be less than two hundred dollars per annum.

490. If the claims upon the fund for any year shall exceed the income for the year, the deficit in income shall be made up out of the Reserve Fund.

491. Each child of a deceased minister, if such child was born after its father was received into full connexion with the Conference, shall receive an annuity of \$50 up to eighteen years of age, said annuity to begin with the Conference year following the minister's

death. If a deceased minister leaves no claimant widow and leaves a child or children unprovided for, or, if a claimant widow dies and leaves a child or children unprovided for, an additional annuity of \$50 shall be paid to each child up to eighteen years of age, \$150 from the age of eighteen to twenty; provided, however, that the total amount of additional annuity or annuities paid in any one year to the child or children in any such case shall not exceed a sum equal to the annuity to which the mother would have been entitled.

XII. *Commutation of Annuities.*

492. A superannuated minister who, in the judgment of his Conference, is laid aside from the work of the ministry, from causes which do not disqualify him for secular business, may be recommended by such Conference to the Board for the commutation of his annuity.

493. The relation of each superannuated minister shall be brought under review by his Annual Conference. If there is little hope of restoration to the active work of the ministry, and the cause be such as does not disqualify him for secular business, the Conference may recommend the suspension of the payment of his annuity. The Board shall have the power to act on such recommendation, and the decision of the Board shall be final.

494. It shall be the duty of the Board to call the attention of the Annual Conferences to the relation of all claimants where review is deemed necessary or expedient.

495. The minimum allowance in the commutation of an annuity shall be an amount equal to the sum of the claimants' personal subscriptions to the fund, with four per cent. compound interest on the same, and, in addition, \$10 for each year of post-probationary service.

496. The maximum allowance in the commutation of an annuity shall be equal to the aforesaid sum of a claimant's personal subscriptions, with compound interest at four per cent., and, in addition, \$20 for each year of post-probationary service; provided, however, that in no case shall the total amount paid in commutation of a claim be more than \$2,000.

497. The Board, in determining the sum of a claimant's personal subscription to the Superannuation Fund, shall reckon \$4 for each year of service up to and including the year 1866-1867; \$5 for each year 1867-1868 to 1872-1873 inclusive; \$6 for the year 1873-1874; \$10 for each year, 1874-1875 to 1882-1888 inclusive; \$12 for each year, 1883-1884 to 1894-1895 inclusive; and for each subsequent year the sum credited shall be as per the records of the Board. In the case of members of the former Supernumerary Fund, the amount shall be the sum credited on the records of the Board. If the claimant has received one or more annual payments from the fund, an amount equal to not less than one-half the sum of such payments shall be deducted from his commutation.

498. The Board, in determining the allowance in the commutation of an annuity, shall take into consideration reversionary interests, also the age, health,

and probable longevity of the beneficiaries, and shall pay the maximum allowance only when the claimant's wife is living, and when there is also a strong probability of both parties reaching their expectancy.

499. The Board shall have the authority to commute an annuity on the recommendation, or consent, of an Annual Conference; but in any case recommended for commutation it shall be optional with the Board either to commute the claim or not, as it may deem expedient, and the decision of the Board shall be binding on the minister concerned.

500. In all cases the commutation of an annuity shall cancel the reversionary interest of a claimant's wife and children.

XIII. *Refunds.*

501. When a minister ceases to be a member of the fund, if he shall have travelled fewer than twenty-three years, his annual assessments shall be refunded, with five per cent. simple interest; if he shall have rendered twenty-three or more years of service, his interest in the fund shall be commuted by the Board. Any sums paid him as a superannuated minister shall be deducted from the refund or commutation, as the case may be.

502. A probationer who ceases to be a member of the fund shall have his annual assessments refunded.

503. In the refunding of subscriptions the Secretary-Treasurer shall ascertain whether the loans that may have been granted the applicant by the Educational Society have been repaid. If such loans have not been

repaid, no refund of assessments shall be made until a certificate of payment is furnished. The Board is authorized to protect the Book and Publishing House, in the same manner.

XIV. *Regulations.*

504. The Secretary of each Annual Conference, immediately on the rising of the same, and on blank forms provided by the Board, shall furnish the Secretary-Treasurer of the fund with a certified statement containing:

1. The name and date of birth of each preacher received on trial.

2. The name and date of birth of any minister received from another Church.

3. The name and latest post-office address of each minister or minister's widow who has died during the year, also of claimant children.

4. The names and addresses of those who have received a superannuated relation.

5. The names of superannuated ministers who are recommended to commute their claims.

6. The names of ministers who have resigned, been located, made supernumeraries, dropped, suspended or deposed from the ministry.

7. The names of superannuated, supernumerary, located or suspended ministers restored to the active work.

8. The names of ministers left without an appointment at their own request.

9. The name of the Conference Treasurer of this fund.

10. The amounts raised on each charge for ministerial support, and for the funds forming the basis of circuit apportionment, as per Article VII.; also the amount paid each minister and probationer, from all sources, for salary.

505. A minister shall be under obligation, on request, to give the Secretary-Treasurer the date of his own and his wife's birth.

506. A superannuated minister who changes his place of residence shall notify the Secretary-Treasurer, and also the President of his Annual Conference, of such change within thirty days thereof.

507. The names of subscribers of five dollars or more annually to the fund shall be printed in the Minutes of the Annual Conference.

SECTION XII.

THE SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS' AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND.

508. *Editors' Note.*—The General Conference provided for the immediate amalgamation of the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund with the Superannuation Fund. On the request of the Committee of Management of this fund (Nov. 14th, 1918) the Constitution is omitted from the Discipline.

SECTION XIII.

THE SUSTENTATION FUND.

Each of the Annual Conferences may have a Sustentation Fund, which shall be constituted, governed and administered, as far as may be possible, in accordance with the following suggested constitution:

CONSTITUTION.

I. *Name.*

509. This fund shall be known as "The Sustentation Fund of the Conference."

II. *Object.*

510. The object of the fund shall be to secure for all ministers and probationers in the active work on circuits the minimum salary as provided for in Par. 260 of the Discipline.

III. *Revenue.*

511. The revenue of the fund shall be derived:

1. From an offering which shall be taken annually in every congregation within the bounds of the Conference; and

2. From subscriptions, donations or legacies which may be secured for this fund, or the income derived therefrom.

IV. *Management.*

512. 1. The management of this fund shall be vested in a Committee of Management consisting of one minister and one layman from each District, to be elected by the Annual District Meeting.

2. On nomination of the Committee of Management, a Standing Committee, consisting of not less than three members, may be elected by the Annual Conference. It shall be the duty of the Standing Committee:

(a) To take such steps as may be deemed advisable to increase the income of the fund, if possible, to an amount sufficient to secure the complete accomplishment of its object; and

(b) To co-operate with the Committee to be appointed by the Financial District Meeting on each District, with the object of visiting all weak circuits and putting forth an effort to induce the people to increase their contributions and to improve their financial methods.

V. *Claimants.*

513. All circuits reporting a deficiency may become claimants on the fund, subject to the following conditions:

1. No circuit shall receive from the fund in any one year more than two hundred (\$200.00) dollars, except in special cases as hereinafter provided.

2. The Committee of Management shall have power to exclude from the benefits of the fund any circuit

which, in the judgment of the Committee, is making no sincere effort to meet its legitimate financial obligations.

3. Special cases may be considered by the Committee of Management, but any action taken concerning such cases shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present.

VI. *Report.*

514. The Committee of Management shall report to the Annual Conference, giving a full audited statement of receipts and expenditure.

Part VI.

THE RITUAL.

IV. 1000

1000. 400

THE RITUAL

I.

THE ORDER OF BAPTISM.

515. THE MINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM TO INFANTS.

The Minister coming to the font, which is to be filled with pure water, shall use the following, or some other exhortation suitable to this sacred office:

DEARLY BELOVED: Forasmuch as our Lord Jesus Christ gave commandment to His Church to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and whereas these persons here present do bring *this child*, and do now present *him* for baptism, I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that having, of His bounteous mercy, redeemed *this child* by the blood of His Son, He will grant that *he*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and received into Christ's holy Church, and become a living member of the same.

Then shall the Minister say,—Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who of Thy great mercy didst save Noah and his family in the ark from

perishing by water; and also didst safely lead the children of Israel, Thy people, through the Red Sea, figuring thereby Thy holy Baptism; and hast set apart water for this holy Sacrament; and hast condescended to enter into gracious covenant with man, wherein Thou hast included children as partakers of its benefits, declaring that “of such is the Kingdom of heaven;” we beseech Thee for Thine infinite mercies that Thou wilt look upon *this child*; wash *him*, and sanctify *him* with the Holy Spirit; that *he*, being saved by Thy grace, may be received into the ark of Christ’s Church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that finally *he* may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with Thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

O merciful God, grant that the old Adam in *this child* may be so buried that the new man may be raised up in *him*. AMEN.

Grant that all carnal affection may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. AMEN.

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. AMEN.

Grant that being dedicated to Thee in baptism, *he* may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through Thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. AMEN.

Then shall the people stand up, and the Minister shall read one or more of the following portions of Scripture:

Hear the word of the Lord written in the Book of Genesis (chap. xvii. 7) :

And I will establish My covenant between Me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

The Apostle Peter declares (Acts ii. 39) : The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off.

The Apostle Paul likewise saith in the Epistle to the Galatians (chap. iii. 13, 14, 29) : Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us : for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree : that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ. And if ye be Christ's then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

The Lord hath by His servant Ezekiel (chap. xxxvi. 25) said : Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean : from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

Hear also the words of the Gospel written by St. Mark, in the tenth chapter, beginning at the thirteenth verse :

And they brought young children to Him, that He should touch them : and His disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was

much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them.

Then may the Minister say:

DEARLY BELOVED: Forasmuch as *this child* is now presented by you for Christian baptism, you must remember that it is your part and duty to see that *he* be taught, as soon as *he* shall be able to learn, the nature and end of this holy sacrament, and all those truths of the Holy Scriptures which reveal our duty and God's will concerning us. Bring *him* up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, so that *he* may lead a virtuous and holy life, and, being sheltered from the dangers and temptations of the world, and kept safe from ungodly teaching and example, may be led to trust in Christ *his* Saviour, and abide through life a faithful member of His holy Church.

Then shall the Minister say,—Let us pray.

Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of His most precious side both water and blood, and gave commandment to His disciples, that they should go and teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: regard, we beseech Thee, our supplications, and

grant that *this child*, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of Thy grace, and be found at last in the number of Thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

O merciful God and heavenly Father, be pleased to give Thy Holy Spirit to the parents of *this child*, that they may have wisdom and grace to bring up their offspring in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and in the faith of Thy holy Word, through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister take the child in his arms, and say to the parents or friends of the child:

NAME THIS CHILD.

And then, naming it after them, he shall baptize the child, saying:

N, I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

We receive *this child* into the congregation of Christ's flock, that *he* may be instructed and trained in the doctrines, privileges, and duties of the Christian religion, and trust that *he* will be Christ's faithful servant unto *his* life's end.

The Minister may close with extempore prayer.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. AMEN.

516. THE MINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM TO SUCH AS ARE OF RIPER YEARS.

The Congregation shall rise, and the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED: Forasmuch as our Lord Jesus Christ gave commandment to His Church to make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; and, forasmuch as *this person* here present, not having been baptized in *his* infancy, seeks now in the presence of this congregation to be admitted into Christ's Church, through the ordinance which He hath appointed for that end; let us, being gathered together in the name of Christ, and in obedience to His command, hear, for our instruction and encouragement, the teaching of His Holy Word concerning this sacrament:

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. AMEN. (*Matt. xxviii. 18-20.*)

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (*Acts ii. 38.*)

Ananias.....said.....Brother Saul.....why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. (*Acts xxii. 12-16.*)

Then the Minister shall speak to the person to be baptized on this wise:

Well beloved, *thou hast* been instructed, according to Christ's commandment, in the principles of His doctrine, and by the coming hither desiring to receive His holy baptism *dost* solemnly profess, before God and this congregation, *thy* belief in the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, into whose name *thou art* about to be baptized, and *dost* confess with *thy* mouth the Lord Jesus. *Thou hast* heard the command of God by the mouth of His Apostle, Repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ; and the words spoken to Saul of Tarsus, Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. *Thou art* also reminded that all such as are baptized into Jesus Christ are joined unto Him in one Spirit. *Thou* must therefore, for *thy* part, declare *thy* faith in Christ, and must promise in the presence of this congregation that *thou wilt*, by the grace of God, renounce the devil and all his works, and wilt steadfastly believe God's holy promises, and obediently keep His commandments.

Then shall the Minister demand of each of the persons to be baptized, severally:

Ques. Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all

covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow nor be led by them?

Ans. I renounce them all.

Ques. Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth? and in Jesus Christ His only begotten Son our Lord? and that He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary? that He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried? that He rose again the third day? that He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and from thence He shall come again, at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead? And dost thou believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the remission of sins; the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Ans. All this I steadfastly believe.

Ques. Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

Ans. This is my desire.

Ques. Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.

Then shall the Minister ask the name of the person to be baptized, and repeating the same shall baptize him, saying:

N, I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

After which he shall say:

Grant, O merciful Father, that *this person* whom we now receive into Thy Church by baptism, may never hereafter be ashamed to confess the Faith of Christ crucified, and manfully fight under His banner against sin, the world, and the devil; and that *he* may continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto *his* life's end. AMEN.

After which the Minister shall say:

Almighty and everlasting God, our heavenly Father, we give Thee humble thanks for that Thou hast vouchsafed to call us to the knowledge of Thy grace and faith in Thee. Give Thy Holy Spirit to *this person*, that *he* may be made *an heir* of everlasting salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.

Grant that all carnal affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. AMEN.

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. AMEN.

Grant that *he*, being dedicated to Thee by our office and ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through Thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. AMEN.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. AMEN.

Then the Minister, speaking to the newly-baptized, shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED: *Thou hast* now been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus; I exhort *thee* to bear in mind that it is *thy* part and duty to walk answerably to *thy* high and holy calling, as becometh the *child* of light, blameless and harmless, without rebuke in the midst of an ungodly world; remembering always that baptism representeth unto us our profession; which is to follow the example of our Saviour Christ, and to be made like unto Him, that as He died and rose again for us, so should we that are baptized die to sin and rise again unto righteousness; continually mortifying all our evil and corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living.

The Minister may conclude the Service with exhortation and extempore prayer:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. AMEN.

II.

517. RECEPTION INTO FULL MEMBERSHIP.

Upon the day appointed, all that are to be received shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the congregation, shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN: The Scriptures teach us that the Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the Head, and that it is the design of the Gospel to bring together, in one, all who are in Christ. The fellowship of the Church is the communion which its members enjoy one with another. The ends of this fellowship are the maintenance of sound doctrine and the ordinance of Christian worship, and the exercise of that power of godly admonition and discipline which Christ has committed to His Church for the promotion of holiness.

It is the duty of all men to unite in this fellowship, for it is only those that be "planted in the house of the Lord, that shall flourish in the courts of our God." Their more particular *duties* are to promote peace and unity; to bear one another's burdens; to prevent each other's stumbling; to seek the intimacy of friendly society among themselves; to continue steadfast in the faith and worship of the Gospel; and to pray and sympathize with each other. Among their *privileges* are peculiar incitements to holiness from the hearing of God's Word, and sharing in Christ's ordinances; the being placed under the watchful care of pastors, and the enjoyment of the blessings which are promised to

those only who are of the household of faith. Into this holy fellowship the persons before you, who have already received the sacrament of Baptism, and having been for three months on probation, come seeking admission. We now propose, in the fear of God, to question them as to their faith and purposes, that you may know that they are proper persons to be admitted into the Church.

Then the Minister may address the applicants in the following or similar language:

DEARLY BELOVED: You come hither seeking the great privilege of union with the Church our Saviour has purchased with His own blood. We rejoice in the grace of God vouchsafed unto you in that He has called you to be His *followers*, and thus far you have run well. You have heard how blessed are the privileges and how solemn are the duties of membership in Christ's Church; and before you are fully admitted thereto, it is proper that you do here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purposes, by answering the following questions:

Ques. Do you here, in the presence of God and of this congregation, renew the solemn consecration of yourself to God, and take upon you the sacred obligation involved and set forth in the holy ordinance of baptism, and do you purpose that in heart and life, in death and for ever, you will be a true servant of God and of Christ?

Ans. I do. Such is my purpose, by God's help.

Ques. Do you believe in our Lord Jesus Christ, as the only, and all-sufficient, propitiation for the sins of mankind, and do you look to Him for the remission of sin and eternal life?

Ans. Such are my faith and hope.

Ques. Do you believe in the inspiration and divine authority of the Holy Scriptures, and accept the same as a sufficient rule of faith and practice?

Ans. I do.

Ques. Will you cheerfully be governed by the rules of the Methodist Church, hold sacred the ordinances of God, and endeavor, as much as in you lies, to promote the welfare of your brethren, and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom?

Ans. I will.

Ques. Will you contribute of your earthly substance, according to your ability, to the support of the Gospel and the various benevolent enterprises of the Church?

Ans. I will.

Then the Minister, addressing the congregation, shall say:

BRETHREN: You have heard the responses given to our inquiries. Have any of you any reason to allege why these persons should not be received into full membership in the Church?

No objection being alleged, the Minister shall say to the candidates:

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection

and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship; and may God grant that you may be faithful and useful members of the Church militant until you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

Then shall the Minister offer extempore prayer.

III.

518. ADVANCEMENT FROM CATECHUMEN MEMBERSHIP TO ADULT MEMBERSHIP.

Upon the day appointed, all that are to be so advanced shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the congregation, shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED: These young people who now present themselves before you were at a former time received into the Church through the ordinance of Baptism, that they might be instructed and trained in the doctrines, privileges and duties of the Christian religion. Having been so instructed and trained, and having attained the age when, according to our Discipline, they are eligible to present themselves as candidates for adult membership, and having intimated their desire for such advancement, we now propose to question them as to their readiness to accept the obligations that were involved in their baptism.

Then the Minister may address the candidates in the following or similar language:

DEARLY BELOVED: Having been dedicated to God in holy baptism, and having reached an age of understanding and deliberate choice, when it rests with yourselves to say whose you will be and whom you will serve, we rejoice that so early you have embraced the opportunity to present yourselves before this congregation, gratefully to acknowledge your appreciation of the privileges that were conferred upon you at the time of your baptism, and to declare your purpose now and henceforward to fulfil the obligations that were set forth in that ordinance.

We now propose, in the fear of God, to question you to make clear your attitude to Christ and His Church.

Ques. Do you love and trust the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, Friend, and Guide?

Ans. I do.

Ques. Are you resolved as long as you live to obey and serve Him?

Ans. I am.

Ques. Will you search the Scriptures diligently for instruction in the way of eternal life?

Ans. I will.

Ques. Have you read carefully the Rules of the Methodist Church?

Ans. I have.

Ques. Are you willing to be governed by them?

Ans. I am.

Ques. Will you, as you become able, contribute to the support of the Gospel and the various enterprises of the Church?

Ans. I will.

BRETHREN: You have heard the responses given to our inquiries. Have any of you any reason to allege why these persons should not be advanced to the status of adult members of the Church?

No objection being alleged, the Minister shall say to the candidates:

In the name of our common Master and of His Church, we heartily congratulate you upon having come to realize the higher privileges and duties that are yours as members of the Church; and we trust that through His grace given unto you, you may abide therein loyal and faithful servants of our Saviour and Lord while life shall last.

Then shall the Minister offer extempore prayer.

IV.

THE LORD'S SUPPER.

519. THE MINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF
THE LORD'S SUPPER.

While the collection for the poor is being taken up, the Minister shall read one or more of these sentences:

Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. (*Matt. v. 16.*)

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. (*Matt. vi. 19, 20.*)

Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. (*Matt. vii. 12.*)

Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven. (*Matt. vii. 21.*)

Zaccheus stood, and said unto the Lord: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. (*Luke xix. 8.*)

He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver. (*2 Cor. ix. 6, 7.*)

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. (*Gal. vi. 10.*)

Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. (*1 Tim. vi. 6, 7.*)

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. (*1 Tim. vi. 17-19.*)

God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed towards His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. (*Heb. vi. 10.*)

To do good and to communicate forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. (*Heb. xiii. 16.*)

Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? (*1 John iii. 17.*)

He that hath pity on the poor lendeth unto the Lord ;
and that which he hath given will He pay him again.
(*Prov. xix. 17.*)

Blessed is he that considereth the poor ; the Lord will
deliver him in time of trouble. (*Psalm xli. 1.*)

While these sentences are being read, some person or persons, appointed for that purpose, shall receive the alms for the poor, and then bring them to the Minister, who shall place them upon the table.

[If the Minister be straitened for time he may omit any part of the following service except the prayer of consecration. The Minister may ask one or more members of the Quarterly Official Board to distribute the bread and wine.]

After which the Minister shall say :

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in His holy ways ; draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort ; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Then shall this general confession be made by the Minister in the name of all those that are minded to receive the Holy Communion, both he and all the people devoutly kneeling and saying :

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men ; we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word

and deed, against Thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly Thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of Thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto Thee; have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

The Collect.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Then shall the Minister say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high. AMEN.

We do not presume to come to this Thy table, O merciful God, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Thy table. But Thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink His blood, that our sinful souls and bodies may be made clean by His death, and washed through His most precious blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. AMEN.

Then the Minister shall offer the Prayer of Consecration as followeth:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of Thy tender mercy didst give Thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by His oblation of Himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in His holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that His precious death until His coming again: hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech Thee, and grant that we, receiving these Thy creatures of bread and wine,

according to Thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of His death and passion, may be partakers of His most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me. Likewise after supper He took the cup; and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do ye, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of Me. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister or Ministers receive the Communion in both kinds; and deliver the same to the people also, in order, into their uncovered hands. And when he delivereth the bread he shall say:

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for *thee*, preserve *thy* soul and *body* unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for *thee*, and feed on Him in *thy* heart by faith, with thanksgiving.

And the Minister that delivereth the cup shall say:

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for *thee*, preserve *thy* soul and *body* unto everlasting life. Drink of this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for *thee*, and be thankful.

If the consecrated bread or wine be all spent before all have communed, the Minister may consecrate more by repeating the Prayer of Consecration.

When all have communed, the Minister shall return to the Lord's Table, and place upon it what remaineth of the consecrated elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.

Then may the Minister say the Lord's Prayer: the people repeating after him every petition.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN.

After which may be said as followeth:

O Lord, our heavenly Father, we Thy humble servants desire Thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching Thee to grant that, by the merits and death of Thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in His blood, we and Thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of His passion. And here we offer and present unto Thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto Thee, humbly beseeching Thee that all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be filled with Thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto Thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech Thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be unto Thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

Then may be said:

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, art most high in the glory of God the Father. AMEN.

Then the Minister, if he see it expedient, may offer an extempore prayer; and afterwards shall let the people depart with this blessing:

May the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. AMEN.

V.

MATRIMONY.

520. FORM FOR THE SOLEMNIZATION OF MATRIMONY.

First, the banns of all that are to be married must be published in the congregation according to law, unless in cases where license has been obtained.

At the time appointed for the solemnization of matrimony, the persons to be married standing together, the man at the right hand of the woman, the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED: We are gathered together here, in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony, which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocence, signifying unto us the mystical union that is betwixt Christ and His Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with His presence, and first miracle that He wrought in Cana of Galilee, and is commended of St. Paul to be honorable among all men; and therefore is not by any to be enterprised or taken in hand unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, and in the fear of God.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore, if any one can show any just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

And also speaking unto the persons that are to be married, he shall say:

I require and charge you both (as you will answer at the dreadful day of judgment, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed), that if either of you know any impediment why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you do now confess it. For be ye well assured, that so many as are coupled together otherwise than as God's Word doth allow, are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.

If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Minister say unto the man:

M, wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health, and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

The man shall answer:

I WILL.

Then shall the Minister say unto the woman:

N, Wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health, and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

The woman shall answer:

I WILL.

Then the Minister shall cause the man, with his right hand, to take the woman by her right hand, and to say after him as followeth:

I, *M*, take thee, *N*, to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.

Then shall they loose their hands, and the woman, with her right hand, taking the man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Minister:

I, *N*, take thee, *M*, to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.

When the parties desire to be married with a ring, the following form may be used:—The man, placing the ring upon the fourth finger of the woman's left hand, shall say after the Minister:

With this ring, a token and pledge of the vow and covenant now made between me and thee, I do thee wed, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

O eternal God, Creator and Preserver of mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life, send Thy blessing upon these Thy servants, this

man and this woman, whom we bless in Thy name; that they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant betwixt them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to Thy laws, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister say:

O God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob, bless this man and this woman, and sow the seed of eternal life in their hearts, that whatsoever in Thy holy Word they shall profitably learn, they may indeed fulfil the same. Look, O Lord, mercifully on them from heaven, and bless them. And as Thou didst send Thy blessings upon Abraham and Sarah, to their great comfort, so vouchsafe to send Thy blessings upon this man and this woman, that they, obeying Thy will, and always being in safety under Thy protection, may abide in Thy love until their lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister join their right hands together, and say:

Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.

Forasmuch as *M* and *N* have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith, either to other, and have declared the same by joining of hands, and by the giving and receiving of a ring, I pronounce that they are husband and wife together,

—In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

And the Minister shall add this blessing:

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favor look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. AMEN.

Then shall the Minister say:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. AMEN.

VI.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

521. FORM FOR THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

[N.B.—The following or some other solemn service shall be used.]

The Minister meeting the corpse, and going before it, shall say:

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. (*John xi. 25, 26.*)

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another. (*Job xix. 25, 26, 27.*)

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. (*1 Tim. vi. 7; Job. i. 21.*)

At the grave, when the corpse is laid in the earth, the Minister shall say:

Man, that is born of a woman, hath but a short time to live; he cometh up, and is cut down as a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death; of whom may

we seek for succor but of Thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not Thy merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, Thou most worthy Judge eternal, and suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from Thee.

Then while the earth shall be cast upon the body by some standing by, the Minister shall say:

Forasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God in His wise providence to take out of the world the soul of the departed, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible body of those who sleep in Him shall be changed, and made like unto His own glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby He is able to subdue all things unto Himself.

Then shall be said:

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

Then shall the Minister say:

Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ, have mercy upon us,
 Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. AMEN.

The Collect.

O merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die, and whosoever liveth and believeth in Him shall not die eternally: we meekly beseech Thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life we may rest in Him; and, at the general resurrection at the last day, we may be found acceptable in Thy sight, and receive that blessing which Thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear Thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech Thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. AMEN.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all evermore. AMEN.

VII.

ORDINATION OF MINISTERS.

522. FORM FOR ORDAINING MINISTERS.

[When the day appointed for the ordination of Ministers is come, there shall be a sermon, or exhortation, declaring the duty and office of such as come to be admitted Ministers, how necessary that order is in the Church of Christ, and also how the people ought to esteem them in their office.]

After which one of the Ministers shall present unto the General Superintendent or President all them that are to be ordained, saying:

I present unto you these persons present to be ordained ministers.

Then their names being read aloud, the General Superintendent or President shall say unto the people:

Brethren, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain ministers. For, after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who knoweth any impediment or crime in any of them, for which he ought not to be received into this holy ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If any crime or impediment be alleged, the General Superintendent or President shall surcease from ordaining that person until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the crime.]

Then shall be said the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel, as followeth:

The Collect.

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who by the Holy Spirit hast appointed ministers in Thy Church; mercifully behold these Thy servants now called to the office of ministers, and replenish them so with the truth of Thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that, both by word and good example, they may faithfully serve Thee in this office, to the glory of Thy name, and the edification of Thy Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, world without end. AMEN.

The Epistle (Eph. iv. 4-13).

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling: one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore, He saith, when He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that He ascended, what is it but that He also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He gave some, apostles, and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints

for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

The Gospel (St. John x. 1-16).

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him; for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him; for they know not the voice of strangers. This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which He spake unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before Me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the

wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth; and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine. As the Father knoweth Me, even so know I the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

And that done, the General Superintendent or President shall say unto them as hereafter followeth:

You have heard, brethren, as well in your private examination as in the exhortation which was now made to you, and in the holy lessons taken out of the Gospel, and the writings of the apostles, of what dignity and great importance is this office whereunto you are called. And now again, we exhort you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you have in remembrance into how high a dignity, and to how weighty an office you are called: that is to say, to be messengers, watchmen, and stewards of the Lord; to teach and to premonish, to feed and provide for the Lord's family; to seek for Christ's sheep that are dispersed abroad, and for His children who are in the midst of this evil world, that they may be saved through Christ forever.

Have always, therefore, in remembrance how great a treasure is committed to your charge. For they are the sheep of Christ, which He bought with His death,

and for whom He shed His blood. The Church and congregation whom you must serve is His spouse and His body. And if it shall happen that the same Church, or any member thereof, do take any hurt or hindrance by reason of your negligence, you know the greatness of the fault, and also the horrible punishment that will ensue. Wherefore consider with yourselves the end of the ministry towards the children of God, towards the spouse and body of Christ; and see that you never cease your labor, your care and diligence, until you have done all that lieth in you, according to your bounden duty, to bring all such as are or shall be committed to your charge, unto that agreement in the faith and knowledge of God, and to that ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ, that there be no place left among you, either for error in religion or for viciousness in life.

Forasmuch, then, as your office is both of so great excellency, and of so great difficulty, you see with how great care and study you ought to apply yourselves, as well that you may show yourselves dutiful and thankful unto that Lord who hath placed you in so high a dignity, as also to beware that neither you yourselves offend, nor be occasion that others offend. Howbeit you cannot have a mind and will thereto yourselves, for that will and ability is given of God alone; therefore you ought, and have need, to pray earnestly for His Holy Spirit. And seeing that you cannot compass the doing of so weighty a work, pertaining to the salvation of man, but with doctrine and exhortation taken

out of the Holy Scriptures, and with a life agreeable to the same, consider how studious you ought to be in reading and learning the Scriptures, and in framing the manners both of yourselves and of them that specially pertain unto you, according to the rule of the same Scriptures; and, for this self-same cause, how you ought to forsake and set aside (as much as you may) all worldly cares and studies.

We have good hope that you have all weighed and pondered these things long before this time; and that you have clearly determined, by God's grace, to give yourselves wholly to this office, whereunto it has pleased God to call you; so that, as much as lieth in you, you will apply yourselves wholly to this one thing, and draw all your cares and studies this way, and that you will continue to pray to God the Father, by the mediation of our only Saviour, Jesus Christ, for the heavenly assistance of the Holy Spirit; that, by the daily reading and weighing of the Scriptures, you may wax riper and stronger in your ministry; and that you may so endeavor yourselves, from time to time, to sanctify the lives of you and yours, and to fashion them after the rule and doctrine of Christ, that you may be wholesome and godly examples and patterns for the people to follow.

And now that this present congregation of Christ here assembled may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that this your promise may the more move you to do your duties; you shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God

and His Church, shall demand of you touching the same.

Do you think, in your heart, that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the office of a minister?

Ans. I think so.

The General Superintendent or President. Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrines required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the Scriptures?

Ans. I am so persuaded, and have so determined, by God's grace.

The General Superintendent or President. Will you then give your faithful diligence always to minister the doctrines, and sacraments, and discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded?

Ans. I will so do, by the help of the Lord.

The General Superintendent or President. Will you be ready, with all faithful diligence, to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word; and to use both public and private monitions and exhortations, as well to the sick as to

the whole within your charge, as need shall require and occasion shall be given?

Ans. I will, the Lord being my helper.

The General Superintendent or President. Will you be diligent in prayers, and in reading of the Holy Scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of the same, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.

The General Superintendent or President. Will you be diligent to frame and fashion yourselves, and your families, according to the doctrines of Christ; and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

Ans. I will apply myself thereto, the Lord being my helper.

The General Superintendent or President. Will you maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in you quietness, peace, and love among all Christian people and especially among them that are or shall be committed to your charge?

Ans. I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

The General Superintendent or President. Will you reverently obey your chief ministers, unto whom is committed the charge and government over you; followin

with a glad mind and will their godly admonitions, submitting yourselves to their godly judgment?

Ans. I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

Then shall the General Superintendent or President, standing up, say:

Almighty God, who hath given you the will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same; that He may accomplish His work which He hath begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

[After this the congregation shall be desired, secretly in their prayers, to make their humble supplications to God for all these things, for the which prayers there shall be silence kept for a space.]

After which shall be said by the General Superintendent or President (the persons to be ordained Ministers all kneeling), Veni, Creator, Spiritus, the General Superintendent or President beginning, and the Ministers and others that are present answering by verse, as followeth:

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.
 Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost Thy seven-fold gifts impart.
 Thy blessed unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.
 Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.
 Anoint and cheer our soiled face
With the abundance of Thy grace;

Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where Thou art guide, no ill can come.
 Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And Thee, of both, to be but one;
 That through the ages all along,
This may be our endless song;
 Praise to Thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

That done, the General Superintendent or President shall pray in this wise:

Almighty God and heavenly Father, who of Thine infinite love and goodness toward us hast given to us Thy only and most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer, and the Author of everlasting life; who, after He had made perfect our redemption by His death, and was ascended into heaven, sent abroad into the world His apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, by whose labor and ministry He gathered together a great flock in all parts of the world, to set forth the eternal praise of Thy holy name: for these so great benefits of Thy eternal goodness, and for that Thou hast vouchsafed to call these Thy servants here present to the same office and ministry appointed for the salvation of mankind, we render unto Thee most hearty thanks: we praise and worship Thee: and we humbly beseech Thee, by the same Thy blessed Son, to grant unto all who either here or elsewhere call upon Thy name, that we may continue to show ourselves thankful unto Thee for these and all other Thy benefits, and that we may daily increase and go forward in the

knowledge and faith of Thee and Thy Son, by the Holy Spirit; so that, as well by these Thy ministers, as by them over whom they shall be appointed Thy ministers, Thy holy name may be forever glorified, and Thy blessed kingdom enlarged, through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, world without end. AMEN.

When this prayer is ended, the General Superintendent or President, with two or more of the Ministers present, shall lay their hands severally upon the head of every one that receiveth the order of Ministers; the receivers humbly kneeling upon their knees, and the General Superintendent or President saying:

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a minister in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the authority of the Church through the imposition of our hands. And be thou a faithful dispenser of the Word of God, and of His holy sacraments; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

Then the General Superintendent or President shall deliver to every one of them, kneeling, the Bible into his hands, saying:

Take thou authority to preach the Word of God, and to administer the holy sacraments in the congregation.

Then the General Superintendent or President shall say:

Most merciful Father, we beseech Thee to send upon these Thy servants Thy heavenly blessing, that they

may be clothed with righteousness, and that Thy Word spoken by their mouths may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant also that we may have grace to hear and receive what they shall deliver out of Thy most holy Word, or agreeably to the same, as the means of our salvation; and that, in all our words and deeds, we may seek Thy glory and the increase of Thy Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with Thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continued help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy holy name, and finally, by Thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Here let the service close with singing and the following benediction:

The peace of God, that passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. AMEN.

[The General Conference of 1914 adopted the Revised Version as the official Ordination Bible.]

VIII.

**523. FORM FOR SETTING APART OF
DEACONESSSES.**

After an introductory service at the time appointed, the Chairman of the Deaconess Board, or some other minister, shall present to the General Superintendent, or President of Conference, having charge of the service, the person or persons to be set apart to Deaconess work, saying:

MR. PRESIDENT,—I present unto you these persons, to be set apart as Deaconesses in the Methodist Church.

The President—Have you reason to believe them to be fit and qualified by a godly life and by skill and training in womanly ministrations, to discharge the duties of a Deaconess?

Answer—They have given satisfactory evidence during probation, by practical service and by the prosecution of the prescribed studies, of meetness for this calling.

Then shall the President say to the congregation:

DEARLY BELOVED,—In the record of the earthly life of our Divine Master we learn that He accepted and honored the service rendered Him by loving and devout women. In the apostolic age it was the practice of the Church to give employment to the activity of all believers. Notable among their activities was the employment of godly women of suitable gifts as deaconesses

or servants of the Church. St. Paul, writing to the Philippians, says, "Help those women which labored with me in the Gospel." He also commends unto the Church at Rome Phœbe, a deaconess of the Church, which was at Cenchrea. To this honored service these persons now come to be admitted. We have good confidence that they are apt and competent thereto; nevertheless, should there be any of you who know any reason for which it is inexpedient that these persons, or any of them, should be so set apart, let it be now declared.

If no impediment be alleged, the President shall read, and the candidate shall respond as follows:

President—The spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.

Response—Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

President—Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, and fed Thee? or thirsty, and gave Thee drink? When saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? or naked, and clothed Thee? or when saw we Thee sick, or in prison, and came unto Thee?

Response—And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.

Then all kneeling, the President shall say:

President—Unto Thee lift we up our eyes.

Response—O Thou that dwellest in the heavens;

President—As the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters;

Response—And as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress;

President—Even so our eyes wait upon Thee, O Lord;

Response—Until Thou have mercy upon us.

President—Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who didst call Phoebe and other devout women to be the servants of Thy Church, enabling them to minister to Thine Apostles and to many others also, we thank Thee that Thou hast called these, our sisters, now being set apart to the office of Deaconess, to undertake the like ministration. We beseech Thee to look graciously upon them at this hour and bless them; anoint them with the spirit of wisdom; clothe them with the spirit of power, and enrich them with all spiritual gifts and graces. Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants, and let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon them; and establish Thou the work of their hands upon them; yea, the work of their hands establish Thou it. Look upon all Thy servants here present in compassion and love, and grant unto them the fullness of Thy salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

The candidates shall then rise, and the President shall say:

DEAR SISTERS,—We rejoice with you that in the providence of God an open door of usefulness has been found for you in the service of the Church of Christ. In our loving Master's wide vineyard there are manifold forms of labor, and to each disciple some fitting task is assigned. To you are accorded peculiar privileges and opportunities. Released from other cares, you give yourselves without reservation, according to the will of God, to the service of the Lord and of His Church, wherever your lot may be cast. Like our blessed Master, you are to go about doing good, ministering, as He did, to the wants of a suffering, sorrowing, and sin-laden world. You are to be angels of mercy to the poor, to visit the sick, pray with the dying, care for the orphan, seek the wandering, comfort the afflicted, save the sinning, and ever be ready to take up any other duty proper to your calling. Such a ministry confers upon you a great honor, and involves a solemn responsibility. We are persuaded that you have not entered upon it lightly. No doubt, in the sacred stillness of the sanctuary of the heart you have already consecrated yourselves to this office and work. What you have done alone with God you are now to do formally and publicly, as the Church sets you apart for her special service in co-operation with her pastors.

The President shall then ask:

Question—Do you believe that you have been led by the Spirit and providence of God to engage in this work, and to assume the duties of this office?

Answer—I do.

Question—Do you, in the presence of God and this congregation, promise faithfully to perform the duties of a deaconess in the Church of God, so long as you remain in this calling?

Answer—I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.

Question—Do you accept the Bible as God's Word, and will you take it as the guide of your life and the source and authority of your spiritual instruction?

Answer—I so accept it, and will so employ it.

Question—Will you strive to walk so close to your Saviour that you may ever carry His presence and benediction to the hearts and homes of those to whom you minister?

Answer—I will endeavor so to do.

Question—Will you accept the direction of those whom the Church may set over you in the prosecution of your work?

Answer—I will cheerfully do so.

HYMN 357 (New Hymn Book).

She loved her Saviour, and to Him
Her costliest present brought;
To crown His head, or grace His name,
No gift too rare she thought.

So let the Saviour be adored,
And not the poor despised:
Give to the hungry from your hoard,
But all, give all to Christ.

Go, clothe the naked, lead the blind,
Give to the weary rest;
For sorrow's children comfort find,
And help for all distressed;

But give to Christ alone thy heart,
Thy faith, thy love supreme;
Then for His sake thine alms impart,
And so give all to Him.

All present shall kneel and join in silent prayer for the candidates.

Then the President shall say:

Almighty God, who hast given Thy handmaidens the will to do all these things, grant also unto them power to perform the same, so that all their works may be begun, continued, and ended in Thee, and that they may glorify Thy holy name, and finally obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Then all shall rise, and the President shall present each candidate with her license, saying:

Take thou authority to discharge the duties of a deaconess in the Methodist Church.

The President may then offer a few words of counsel, and close with the following invocation:

May the Holy Spirit of the Living God descend upon you and abide with you evermore. May His holy anointing impart unto you grace for every trial, and gifts for every duty. May His presence be to you a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night, all along the journey of life; and may the blessing of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you, now and evermore. AMEN.

IX.

RENEWING THE COVENANT.

524. A SERVICE FOR SUCH AS WOULD RENEW
THEIR COVENANT WITH GOD.

[After a short sermon, impressing upon every soul the importance of giving himself to God, and that without delay, each Minister is recommended, on his first tour round his circuit in the New Year, beginning the first Sabbath in January, to read the following directions, or some of them, in every congregation, and persuade as many as possible to make solemn covenant with God, and by divine grace, to keep the covenant inviolate unto the day of His coming:]

1. DEARLY BELOVED,—The Christian life, to which we are called, is a life in Christ, redeemed from sin by Him, and through Him consecrated to God. The consecration by which we yield ourselves to Him means that we thankfully enter into a covenant with God to live no more to ourselves, but to Him who loved us and gave Himself for us. This act we are wont to repeat from time to time when we come to the table of the Lord, according to His most gracious appointment, to proclaim His death until He come. To-day we meet together that we may specially review and consider afresh all that a personal consecration means, and give ourselves anew to God.

2. We do not engage in the service of this day as if we doubted the abiding faithfulness of God to His Word, or as if we sought now to be admitted into an-

other covenant, or to find new ground of hope and salvation. In full assurance we humbly rest in the word of His grace spoken to God's ancient people, and made ours in Christ Jesus: "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but My kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of My peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee." (Isa. liv. 10.)

3. We know that our God "abideth faithful," and have proved that His grace is sufficient for us. By the power of the Holy Spirit we have been kept in the way of life, and have been able, in some degree, to fulfil His good will and pleasure. Yet in many things we know that we have been unfaithful, and would, therefore, now humble ourselves before the Lord. While trusting in God's promise to us, how often have we broken our pledges to Him! We have claimed as our own the rights and gifts of the covenant, but have not always consented to be holden by its bonds; and if God had, for our unfaithfulness, shut us out from its blessings, would He not have been therein just and righteous?

4. God's word to us has never failed. It never can. But our word of promise has been most imperfectly redeemed. Our own resolutions and promises and vows condemn us.

5. We come together, therefore, to-day to declare anew that we take upon ourselves the yoke of the Lord Christ. By a solemn act of deliberate consecration, we would yield ourselves afresh to God for the obedient fulfilling of all His righteous will. Let us, then, in

His presence, with contrition of heart, recall to mind that which is required of His own people, not sparing to judge ourselves, but confessing all our transgressions against His holy covenant, humbly trusting in the word of His grace, that "if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (1 John ii. 1.)

6. To the venturing upon this obligation we are encouraged by frequent Old Testament references to the Most High as One who is graciously pleased to enter into covenant with man. The sacred writers reveal Him as binding Himself to be true to those who obey Him, and as welcoming and recording the vows of His people. The attitude of the Most High in this particular is well expressed in the familiar words of Deut. xxvi. 17, 18: "Thou hast avouched the Lord this day to be thy God, and to walk in His ways, and to keep His statutes, and His commandments, and His judgments, and to hearken unto His voice; and the Lord hath avouched thee this day to be His peculiar people, as He hath promised thee."

7. When we come to the New Testament writings we are taught by the Apostle Paul that the blessings of the old covenant, and greater blessings still, are promised to those who believe in Christ Jesus "to the saving of the soul"; for "if ye be Christ's then are ye Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise." (Heb. viii. 6; Gal. iii. 29.)

8. As similar and even nobler reasons still obtain for entering into a covenant with God than prevailed

in the days of old, should we hesitate to follow ancient example, particularly when it is enforced by the higher sanctions of the newer Scriptures? God is no respecter of persons. He is in every land and age the same, always ready to bless and save. He is omnipotent in power, unlimited in resource, infinite in compassion, and wonderful in forbearance and patience. He has strength for the feeble, wisdom for the ignorant, comfort for the sorrowful, and grace for every time of need. And to Him we can always go, and through the merit of our adorable Redeemer obtain strength to fulfil every obligation, redeem every pledge and secure every covenant blessing.

9. God has absolute claims on us, based upon His relationship to us, which we are bound by every consideration of right and duty to recognize. As our Creator, He has rights in us which in justice cannot be ignored. As our Sovereign, His authority is supreme, and to His laws we should loyally submit. As our Father, He is entitled to the love of our hearts and the service of our lives. As our Benefactor, the Giver of all our good and Source of all our blessings, our gratitude should unceasingly arise to Him. And inasmuch as He has redeemed us through the death of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, He is entitled to the consecration of our whole being to His service.

10. In view of these considerations we ought certainly gladly to accept His invitation to enter into covenant with Him. The terms upon which we may do this are declared in His Word. We must resolve to

serve Him faithfully. This service must be a whole-hearted one. Nothing must be kept back, but we must so fully yield to the Lord that we may be able to say, "I am thine, wholly and forever thine."

11. And this yielding to God implies that we are willing to do or to be anything for His sake. As we have accepted Him for our Master, we must be willing to take our work from Him. It will never do to say to Him, "Not so, Lord," but rather, "I am Thine to do Thy will in all things." And let us seek to be able to say, "I am willing to serve Thee by waiting or working; in health or in sickness, in prosperity or adversity; in life or in death." After this manner we are to yield ourselves to Him.

12. And, beloved, let us not allow ourselves to be deterred from entering heartily into this covenant by the remembrance of past failures. We must, indeed, confess that our good deeds are so faultful and imperfect as to demand the forgiving mercy of heaven. Many of us are haunted by memories of broken vows, and have learned the dearly-bought lesson of self-distrust. But to find in the faults and sins of the past an argument for the abandonment of the service of God is to yield the victory to the enemy. Let us rather regard the sins of yesterday as a call to present consecration and future holiness; and, having learned to distrust ourselves, let us cast ourselves wholly upon His grace, who gives to them that wait upon Him strength to "mount up with wings as eagles," to "run and not be weary," to "walk and not faint."

13. And now let as many of us as sincerely purpose to serve God with all our hearts, trusting for divine help so to do, renew our covenant with Him.

14. And if there are any assembled with us who have hitherto lived without God, but who are now willing to turn to Him through Jesus Christ, let them also join with us in this solemn covenant of grace.

15. And inasmuch as this covenant may be *inward* in the soul, or *outwardly* expressed by word, lifting up the hand, by standing or the like, let as many as are now prepared to enter into it do so in *heart*, and by standing together give outward expression to their holy purpose.

Here let all who accept the invitation rise and assent to the following declaration:

16. With the help of the Holy Spirit we will endeavor to live righteous, sober, and godly lives. AMEN.

We will endeavor so to live that our example may never be cited as an excuse for wrong-doing, but that our influence shall always tell in favor of that which is right. AMEN.

We promise, the Lord being our Helper, to abstain not only from all we know to be wrong, but also from everything of the rectitude of which we are in doubt. AMEN.

We promise prayerfully to seek daily counsel and direction from the Word of God, acknowledging that it contains all things necessary to salvation. AMEN.

We promise to reverence the Lord's Day by doing no

unnecessary work thereon, and by devoting its sacred hours to worship, and such other employments as are consistent with the purpose of its institution. AMEN.

We promise to evince our loyalty to the Church of Christ by our presence, when possible, at its services, and our practical sympathy with its work, and by promoting its welfare, to the utmost of our ability, by our prayers and contributions. AMEN.

And, deeply conscious of our weakness and inability of ourselves to fulfil the promises now made, we humbly bow before the Lord and seek the aid of the Holy Spirit in this godly undertaking.

Here all kneel in silent prayer, after which the Minister shall say:

17. O Lord, our heavenly Father, we give Thee humble and hearty thanks for the many precious promises of Thy Word, by which we are encouraged to trust in Thee for help in every time of need, to strengthen and confirm us in our most holy faith, and to give us victory over all our foes. We praise Thee for the testimony borne, by a great army of witnesses, to the power of Thy grace to give victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil. And we especially praise and glorify Thee for what Thou hast done for ourselves in pardoning our sins, witnessing by Thy Holy Spirit to our adoption into Thy family, and for Thy preserving grace until this hour. Now, our Father in heaven, as Thou knowest our proneness to forget Thee and to wander away from Thee, do Thou daily renew our minds by Thy Holy Spirit that we may not forsake

Thee nor prove disloyal to the covenant into which we have this moment entered. Be near to us all through this year, or that part of it during which we may be permitted to live. Save us from becoming discouraged by life's burdens or temptations, or being overcome by the love of the world, or the cares of life. May our love for Thee be pure, warm, and changeless. May our zeal in Thy cause never slacken, but ever burn with an intenser flame. May we so serve Thee that we shall always remember this hour with gratitude! And may we go hence in the glad confidence that Thou hast promised to keep that which we have committed to Thy care unto that day when Christ shall come to claim His own.

And now, O Lord, our heavenly Father, Thou hast become our covenant God, and we are Thy covenant servants. And the covenant which we have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Now, heavenly Father, unto Thee who art able to keep us from stumbling, and to present us faultless before the presence of Thy glory with exceeding joy, to Thee be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. AMEN.

The service to conclude with an appropriate hymn and the benediction; and when practicable, to be followed by the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

X.

LAYING A CORNER-STONE.

525. FORM FOR LAYING THE CORNER-STONE OF A CHURCH.

The Minister, standing near the place where the stone is to be laid, shall say unto the congregation:

DEARLY BELOVED,—We are taught in the Word of God, that although the heaven of heavens cannot contain the Eternal One, much less the walls of temples made with hands, yet His delight is ever with the sons of men, and that wherever two or three are gathered in His name, there is He in the midst of them. In all ages His servants have separated certain places for His worship: Jacob erected a stone in Bethel for God's house; Moses made a tabernacle in the desert; and Solomon builded a temple for the Lord, which He filled with the glory of His presence before all the people. We are now assembled to lay the corner-stone of a new house for the worship of the God of our fathers. Let us not doubt that He will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly unite in singing His praise, and in prayer for His blessing on our undertaking.

Let an appropriate Hymn be sung.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Most glorious God, heaven is Thy throne, and the earth is Thy footstool; what house then can be builded

for Thee, or where is the place of Thy rest? Yet, blessed be Thy name, O Lord God, that it hath pleased Thee to have Thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon the earth. And now, especially, we render thanks to Thee, O God, that it hath pleased Thee to put it into the hearts of Thy servants to erect in this place a house for Thy worship. We thank Thee for Thy grace which has inclined them to contribute of their substance for the glory of Thy name; and we pray Thee to continue Thy blessing upon their pious undertaking. AMEN.

May many unite with them in their holy work, until this habitation of Thy house shall be completed, and ready for dedication to Thy service, free from all debt or claim of man. AMEN.

May peace and harmony prevail in the counsels of Thy servants. May the work of this building be accomplished without hurt or accident to any person. And when Thou shalt have prospered the work of their hands upon them, and this house shall be prepared for Thy service, grant that all who shall enjoy the benefit of this pious work may show forth their thankfulness by making a right use of it, to the glory of Thy blessed name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Grant that all who shall hereafter worship Thee in the temple here to be builded, may so serve and please Thee in all holy exercises of godliness, that in the end they may come to the holy place, made without hands, whose builder and maker is God. AMEN.

Hear us, O Lord, for Thou art our God in whom we

trust. And when we shall cease to pray unto Thee on earth, may we, with all those who in like manner have erected such places to Thy name, and with all Thy glorified saints, eternally praise Thee for all Thy goodness vouchsafed unto us on earth, and laid up for us in heaven. AMEN.

Accept these our prayers, we beseech Thee, for the sake of Thy dear Son, who hath taught us when we pray to say, "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." AMEN.

Then the Minister shall read the following Psalm, or the Minister and people may read it in alternate verses; the parts in italics to be read by the people:

Psalm cxxxii.

Lord, remember David and all his afflictions:

How he swore unto the Lord, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob;

Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;

I will not give sleep to mine eyes, or slumber to mine eyelids,

Until I find out a place for the Lord,

An habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.

Lo, we heard it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.

We will go into His tabernacles: we will worship at His footstool.

Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest; Thou and the ark of Thy strength.

Let Thy priests be clothed with righteousness:

And let Thy saints shout for joy.

For Thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of Thine anointed.

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; He will not turn from it;

Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

If thy children will keep My covenant and My testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.

For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation.

This is my rest forever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless her provision:

I will satisfy her poor with bread.

I will also clothe her priests with salvation:

And her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

There will I make the horn of David to bud:

I have ordained a lamp for Mine anointed.

His enemies will I clothe with shame:

But upon himself shall his crown flourish.

The Lesson. 1 Cor. iii. 9-23.

For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the

grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master-builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now, if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in his own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain. Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

Then shall follow the sermon, or an address suitable to the occasion, after which the contributions of the people shall be received.

Then shall the Minister, standing by the stone, exhibit to the congregation a vessel to be placed in an excavation of the stone. [It may contain a copy of the Bible, the Hymn Book, the Discipline, Church periodicals of recent date, the names of the Pastor, Trustees, and Building Committee of the Church, with such other documents and articles as may be desired. A list of these may be read.] After which the person thereto appointed shall deposit the vessel in the stone and cover it; and shall lay the stone, assisted by the builder, saying:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, I lay this corner-stone for the foundation of a house to be builded and consecrated to the service of Almighty God, according to the order and usages of the Methodist Church. AMEN.

The service may conclude with extempore prayer and the benediction.

XI.

DEDICATION OF A CHURCH.

526. FORM FOR THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH.

The congregation being assembled in the church, the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED,—The Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build temples to His name. We have heard how He filled the temple of Solomon with His glory, and how in the second temple He manifested Himself still more gloriously. Let us not doubt that He will approve our purpose of dedicat-

ing this house for the performance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us now devoutly join in praise to Almighty God that this godly undertaking hath been so far completed: and in prayer for His further blessing upon all who have been engaged therein, and upon all who shall hereafter worship in this place.

Let an appropriate hymn be sung. and extempore prayer be offered, the congregation all kneeling during the prayer.

Then shall the Minister, or some one appointed by him, read:

The First Lesson. 2 Chron. vi. 1, 2, 18-21, 40-42; vii. 1-4.

Then said Solomon. The Lord hath said that He would dwell in the thick darkness. But I have built an house of habitation for Thee, and a place for Thy dwelling forever.

But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain Thee; how much less this house which I have built! Have respect, therefore, to the prayer of Thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and the prayer which Thy servant prayeth before Thee: that Thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place whereof Thou hast said Thou wouldst put Thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which Thy servant prayeth toward this place. Hearken, therefore, unto the supplications of Thy servant, and of Thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place: hear Thou

from Thy dwelling place, even from heaven; and when Thou hearest, forgive.

Now, my God, let, I beseech Thee, Thine eyes be open, and let Thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place. Now, therefore, arise, O Lord God, into Thy resting-place, Thou, and the ark of Thy strength: let Thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let Thy saints rejoice in goodness. O Lord God, turn not away the face of Thine anointed: remember the mercies of David Thy servant.

Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering, and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house. And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the Lord, saying, For He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the Lord.

The Second Lesson. Heb. x. 19-26.

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh; and having an high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed

with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;) and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.

Then shall a hymn be sung, after which the Minister shall deliver a sermon suitable to the occasion, and after the sermon the contributions of the people shall be received.

Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and the congregation shall read it alternately; the parts in italics to be read by the congregation:

Psalm cxxii.

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,

Unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

They shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls.

And prosperity within thy palaces.

For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

Then let the Trustees stand up before the Minister, and one of them, or some one in their behalf, say unto him:

We present unto you this building, to be dedicated as a church for the worship and service of Almighty God.

Then shall the Minister request the congregation to stand, while he repeats the following

DECLARATION:

DEARLY BELOVED,—It is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed His servants in their holy undertaking to erect this church, we dedicate it to His service, for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the preaching of the Word of God, the administration of the holy sacraments, and for all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the Discipline and usages of the Methodist Church. And, as the dedication of the temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshippers also, I now call upon you all to dedicate yourselves anew to the service of God. To Him let our souls be dedicated,

that they may be renewed after the image of Christ. To Him let our bodies be dedicated, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. To Him let our labors and business be dedicated, that their fruit may tend to the glory of His great name, and to the advancement of His kingdom. And that He may graciously accept this our solemn act, let us pray.

The congregation kneeling, the Minister shall offer the following prayer:

O most glorious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto Thee anything belonging unto us; yet we beseech Thee, in Thy great goodness, graciously to accept the dedication of this place to Thy service, and to prosper this the work of our hands; receive the prayers and intercession of all Thy servants who shall call upon Thee in this house; and give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve Thee with reverence and godly fear; affect them with an awful apprehension of Thy divine majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness; that so approaching Thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before Thee with pure hearts, bodies undefiled, and minds sanctified, they may always perform a service acceptable to Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, AMEN.

Regard, O Lord, the supplication of Thy servants, and grant that whosoever shall be dedicated to Thee in this house by baptism, may be found at last in the number of Thy faithful children. AMEN.

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall receive in this place the blessed sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, may come to that holy ordinance with true repentance, faith, and charity; and being filled with Thy grace and heavenly benediction, may obtain remission of their sins, and all other benefits of His death. AMEN.

Grant, O Lord, that by Thy holy Word, read and preached in this place, and by the Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may receive power to perform the same. AMEN.

Now, therefore, arise, O Lord, and come unto this place of Thy rest, Thou, and the ark of Thy strength. Let Thine eyes be open toward this house day and night; and let Thine ears be attent to the prayers of Thy children, which they shall offer unto Thee in this place; and do Thou hear them from heaven, Thy dwelling-place, and when Thou hearest, forgive. O Lord, we beseech Thee, that here and elsewhere Thy ministers may be clothed with righteousness, and Thy saints rejoice in Thy salvation. And may we all, with Thy people everywhere, grow up into a holy temple in the Lord, and be at last received into the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. And to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be glory and praise, world without end. AMEN.

The services may conclude with the Doxology and the Benediction.

APPENDIX I.

PRINCIPLES OF BELIEF ON SOCIAL SUBJECTS.

527. The Church declares her belief in the following principles:—

1. Total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as the imperative duty of every individual;

2. The traffic in intoxicating liquors is immoral, and all complicity therein, such as licensing its manufacture or sale, is an unholy alliance; therefore it is the immediate duty of Parliament and Legislature to legislate for the destruction of the licensed liquor traffic by the absolute prohibition of the manufacture, importation, and sale of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes;

3. The protection of the family by the single standard of purity, proper regulation of marriage and divorce, proper housing, and every other fair and needful safeguard;

4. The conservation of health, including the safeguarding of the physical and moral health of women in industrial life;

5. The protection of childhood by providing for the fullest possible development of each child, especially by

proper education and recreation, and the abolition of child labor;

6. The adequate care of dependent, defective and delinquent persons, and the reclamation of criminals to good citizenship;

7. The safeguarding of the right of all people to self-maintenance, and the making of provision against the hardships of unemployment, seasonal employment and all other encroachments;

8. The securing of protection for workers against the perils of dangerous machinery and occupational diseases; the making of suitable provision for them if incapacitated by old age, injury, or sickness; and the application of the principles of conciliation and arbitration to industrial disputes;

9. The abatement and ultimate abolition of poverty, by the protection of the citizen, the home, society, and the state, against all moral, social and economic waste;

10. The recognition of equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stations of life, with obligation to make immediate, earnest and thorough effort to learn, if possible, what changes of law or usage relating to land tenure and taxation, public ownership, and control of natural resources, production and distribution, etc., may or may not be necessary to secure the rights of the people;

11. (a) The reduction of hours of labor to the lowest practicable point;

(b) The payment by every industry of a living wage as a minimum, and the highest wage that the industry can afford;

(c) Such partnership as can be devised equitably between the employer and the employee;

12. The observance of the Lord's Day, including the complete release from employment on one day in seven for those employed in labor which is necessarily continuous;

13. The opportunity for wholesome, healthful recreation, by the establishment of supervised playgrounds; the encouragement of wholesome athletics and every sane method to secure clean sport and amusement;

14. The prevention of social vice, through education, legislation, and all other proper means; the redemption of the fallen, and their restoration to clean morals and good society;

15. The protection of society in every possible way against contagious diseases;

16. The settlement of international disputes by conciliation and arbitration;

17. The right of every citizen, under proper safeguards, to the franchise, and the duty to exercise it unless prevented by conscientious reasons. All citizens should assist at the primaries, in order that only candidates suitable for public office shall be nominated.

APPENDIX II.

COURSES OF STUDY FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Intending candidates should write as early as possible to the Secretary of the Board of Examiners of the Conference, who will put them in communication with the various examiners in regard to the requirements of the Preliminary Course.

Probationers who have completed any year in the Course of Study in the Discipline of 1914 before the Annual Conference of 1919 shall be considered to have completed such year. In the case of years then incomplete the Boards of Examiners are authorized to make any necessary equations of work between the old and the new courses; also new regulations as to years at college shall apply only to candidates received at or after the Annual Conferences of 1919.

The following Curricula were adopted for the ensuing quadrennium, to take effect after the Annual Conferences of 1919:

528. ORDINARY COURSE.

In case of required reading, no examination shall be set, but the candidate shall present a written review of approximately one thousand words of each work assigned except English Bible, in which case he must assure the Secretary of the Examining Board that he has carefully read the portions indicated.

PRELIMINARY.

A. THEOLOGICAL.

1. Wesley's Sermons (Burwash Edition) Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 34, 35, 40, 43, 44, 45, and
The Main Points (C. R. Brown).
(One paper.)

2. Holy Scripture.

The Worker and his Bible (Eiselen-Barclay).

Required Reading:

English Bible (Moulton's Modern Reader's Bible).

Pentateuch, Psalms and Four Gospels.

Wesley and His Century (Fitchett).

John Wesley's Journal (Parker).

B. LITERARY.

1. Candidates for the ministry shall be required to present: (a) a certificate or other evidence of matriculation into a Canadian or other British university; or (b) an equivalent from one of our own Colleges covering the subjects of junior matriculation; provided that a candidate who has not taken Greek shall be required to pass an examination in elementary Greek grammar; nevertheless, upon the recommendation of a Conference Board of Examiners, candidates who may have written on the junior matriculation, or college equivalent examination, and who have failed in not more than three of the subjects prescribed for such examination, may be received on probation.

Every such candidate must complete this matriculation or college equivalent examination previous to his reception into full connexion.

2. All candidates are recommended to take the full junior matriculation examination with a view to proceeding to the course in Arts.
3. Teachers' certificates of the proper grade, and, in the case of candidates coming to us from British Conferences, certificates of standing from British Methodist Training Institutes, or similar institutions, may be accepted by any Conference Board of Examiners *pro tanto* for the matriculation or college equivalent examination.

NOTE.—To obtain uniformity throughout our Conferences it is to be understood that the subjects for matriculation, or its college equivalent, are such as are designated in the calendar of any Canadian or British university.

FIRST YEAR (ON CIRCUIT).

1. English Bible Study.
 Gospel of Luke (Century Bible).
 Life of Jesus of Nazareth (Rhees).
 (One paper.)
2. Greek Testament.
 Matt. 5-7 (Cambridge Greek Testament for Colleges).
3. Religious Education.
 The Church School (Athearn).
4. Church History.
 The Victory of the Gospel (Lilley).
5. Sociology.
 The Spirit of Social Work (Devine).
 Rural Church Movement (Earp).
 (One paper.)

6. Homiletics.

A sermon written by the probationer and an analysis and criticism of a sermon by some well-known preacher to be sent to the examiner prior to the examination and a sketch written at the examination from one of three texts submitted by the examiner.

Probationers shall write on five of the above six subjects.

Required Reading.

English Bible (Moulton's Modern Reader's Bible),
Historical Books of Old Testament and Acts of
the Apostles.

Claims and Opportunities of the Christian Ministry
(Mott).

The Work of the Preacher (Jowett).

Individual Work for Individuals (Trumbull).

Page's Poets of the Nineteenth Century.

SECOND YEAR (ON CIRCUIT).

1. English Bible Study.

Acts of the Apostles (Century Bible).

2. Greek Testament.

Mark 1-8: 26 (Cambridge Greek Testament for Col-
leges).

3. Theology.

Christianity: Its Nature and Its Truth (Peake).

4. History.

Social Aspects of Foreign Missions (Faunce).

5. Homiletics.

Lectures on Preaching (Brooks).

A sermon written by the probationer and an analysis and criticism of a sermon by some well-known preacher sent to the examiner prior to the examination, also a sketch written at the examination from one of three texts submitted by the examiner.

6. Sociology.

Christianizing Community Life (Ward-Edwards).

The probationer is also to study the social, moral and religious conditions of his field following a suggested outline supplied by the General Conference Commission on Courses of Study through the Secretaries of Conference Examining Boards.

Probationers shall write on five of the above six subjects.

Required Reading:

English Bible (Moulton's Modern Reader's Bible).

Isalah, Philippians, Ephesians, Philemon.

A Theology for the Social Gospel (Rauschenbusch).

Origin and Nature of the Bible (Dods).

The Educational Ideal in the Ministry (Faunce).

Long's History of English Literature.

Bronson's English Essays.

It is recommended—

1. That a probationer be not sent to college until he has passed on four-fifths of the examination subjects for the First and Second Years on circuit, except as provided in Par. 163 (c)
2. That all probationers take one or more of the short special courses in Rural Science available at the Agricultural Colleges.
3. That in the case of returned soldiers who have studied overseas generous allowance be made by Colleges and Conference Examining Boards in the matter of equivalents, and that the exemption made in Par. 163 for probationers on military service be extended, if possible, to the case of soldiers who have served overseas and desire to enter our ministry.

4. In case of students going to college, who have been admitted on probation under the Alternative Course, and who are required to spend an additional year at college, this year shall be taken under the direction of the College Faculty in Literary Studies.

THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH YEARS (AT COLLEGE).

The probationer at college shall pursue his studies, under the direction of the Theological Faculty, in the subjects indicated on page 408. A total of twenty-seven courses* is required, nine in each year, a course to be understood as, approximately, two hours' attendance upon lectures each week, or fifty hours during the twenty-five weeks of the academic year. Nineteen and one-half courses are prescribed for, and must be taken by all students, as indicated below. Seven and one-half courses are elective, and may be chosen by the student, subject to the advice of the Theological Faculty, from any of the subjects named. The plan and arrangement of the courses of study in detail and according to years shall be in the hands of the Theological Faculty of each college.

*It is to be observed that the word "Course" is used in two different ways:

- (1) For the entire series of studies which a probationer must take, as in the general heading "Ordinary Course," "Course for Graduates," etc., and
- (2) Of studies in individual subjects, as in this paragraph.

Subjects and Fixed Courses.

1. Old Testament History, Literature and Exegesis	3 Courses.
2. New Testament History, Literature and Exegesis	3 Courses.
3. Systematic Theology and Philosophy of Religion (including Christian Doctrine, Apologetics and Comparative Religion).	3 Courses.
4. Church History and Missions	2 Courses.
5. Homiletics, Pastoral Theology and Evangelism, and Public Speaking	3 Courses.
6. Religious Education	1 Course.
7. Sociology and Economics	1 Course.
8. English Language and Literature	2 Courses.
9. Philosophy (including one or more of Psychology, Logic, History of Philosophy, and Ethics)	1 Course.
10. Church Polity and Discipline	$\frac{1}{2}$ Course.

The above nineteen and one-half fixed courses, together with seven and one-half elective courses, make the required total of twenty-seven.

The faculty of each of our Theological Colleges shall endeavor to secure and prescribe some form of ministerial work for each probationer during the session; and it shall be competent for the faculty to make this work an optional or elective course for one year at least, by co-ordinating it with other studies and making it the subject of oversight, examination, or report.

The faculty of any Theological College is permitted to substitute one modern language for other subjects in the Course of Study in the case of young men who contemplate devoting their lives to work among European foreigners.

529. ALTERNATIVE PRELIMINARY COURSE.

1. The Superintendents of Missions and the Presidents of Annual Conferences are permitted to employ suitable laborers on the fields under their jurisdiction, the men being, in their judgment, after due investigation, competent to do the required work.

2. After being employed, these men shall be required to pass within the first year an examination in the theological subjects of the Preliminary Course in Paragraph 528 A.

3. After each man has been employed for one or more years (one of which shall count on probation on completion of studies) under a Superintendent of Missions, or the President of an Annual Conference, he may be received on probation on the recommendation of the Conference Board of Examiners and by a two-thirds vote of the Ministerial Session of the Annual Conference; but, before reception into full connexion he shall pass the usual examination in a six years' Course of Study (two on a circuit and four at college), during which he shall also pass at the direction of the Theological Faculty on the following subjects of the Matriculation Course—English, Mathematics, Greek Grammar, History and Geography, and one of the following: Latin, French, German, Elementary Science (Physics or Biology). In exceptional cases, however, English Bible may be substituted for Greek Testament, and an alternative subject for Greek Grammar at the discretion of the Theological Faculty. Nevertheless, where such a candidate shall have completed the Preliminary Course or its

equivalent by the end of the third year of attendance at college, he may, upon the consent of the college authorities, be relieved from further attendance at college.

530. COURSE FOR GRADUATES IN ARTS.

(See Preliminary of the Ordinary Course.)

After the Preliminary Course, probationers who have graduated in Arts from any recognized university, or who intend to do so, may elect to proceed to the degree of B.D. in one of our colleges, or may follow the course of study prescribed below for graduates in Arts. Two years of this course at least shall be taken at one of our theological colleges, and one year may be taken while the probationer is on a circuit or mission, or otherwise as permitted by the Theological Faculty. All the examinations shall be conducted by the college. Every such probationer, therefore, must have his name attached by the Stationing Committee of his Conference to the college by which he is to be examined.

A candidate who has not taken Greek in his Arts Course shall be required to pass a satisfactory examination in Moulton's Introduction to the Study of New Testament Greek, or some equivalent Greek text-book, before taking the examination in Greek Testament of the Probationers' Course.

The course of study is planned to cover three years, one of which may be taken extra-murally, or as provided above. Approximately two-thirds of the individual

courses are prescribed, as stated below, and one-third is elective.

The total number of individual courses required is twenty-four. Each individual course is to be understood as requiring approximately two hours attendance upon lectures each week, or fifty hours during the twenty-five weeks of the academic year. Sixteen and one-half courses are prescribed for, and must be taken by all students, as indicated in the list given below. Seven and one-half courses are elective, and may be chosen by the student, subject to the advice of the Theological Faculty, from the subjects named. The plan and arrangement of the various courses in detail and according to years shall be for the individual college to determine.

Subjects and Number of Fixed Courses.

1. Old Testament History, Literature and Exegesis	3 Courses.
2. New Testament History, Literature and Exegesis	3 Courses.
3. Systematic Theology and Philosophy of Religion (including Christian Doctrine, Apologetics and Comparative Religion)	3 Courses.
4. Church History and Missions	2 Courses.
5. Homiletics, Pastoral Theology and Evangelism, and Public Speaking	3 Courses.
6. Religious Education	1 Course.
7. Sociology.	1 Course.
8. Church Polity and Discipline	$\frac{1}{2}$ Course.

The above sixteen and one-half courses, together with seven and one-half elective courses, make up the required total of twenty-four.

531. COURSE OF STUDY FOR MEDICAL MISSIONARIES.**PRELIMINARY.**

In case of required reading, no examination shall be set, but the candidate shall present a written review of approximately one thousand words of each work assigned except English Bible, in which case he must assure the Secretary of the Examining Board that he has carefully read the portions indicated.

1. Wesley's Sermons (Burwash Edition), Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 34, 35, 40, 43, 44, 45, and

The Main Points (C. R. Brown).

(One paper.)

2. Holy Scripture.

The Worker and His Bible (Eiselen-Barclay).

Required Reading:

English Bible (Moulton's Modern Reader's Bible).

Pentateuch, Psalms and Four Gospels.

Wesley and His Century (Fitchett).

John Wesley's Journal (Parker).

FIRST YEAR.

1. English Bible Study.

Gospel of Luke (Century Bible).

Life of Jesus of Nazareth (Rhees).

(One paper.)

2. Church History.

The Victory of the Gospel (Lilley).

3. Homiletics.

Lectures on Preaching (Brooks).

Required Reading:

English Bible (Moulton's Modern Reader's Bible).

Historical Books of Old Testament and the Acts of the Apostles.

Individual Work for Individuals (Trumbull).

Claims and Opportunities of the Christian Ministry (Mott).

The Work of the Preacher (Jowett).

Page's Poets of the Nineteenth Century.

SECOND YEAR.

1. English Bible Study.
Acts of Apostles (Century Bible).
2. Theology.
Christianity: Its Nature and Its Truth (Peake).
3. History.
Social Aspects of Foreign Missions (Faunce).

Required Reading:

English Bible (Moulton's Modern Reader's Bible).
Isaiah, Philippians, Ephesians, Philemon.
A Theology for the Social Gospel (Rauschenbusch).
The Educational Ideal in the Ministry (Faunce).
Long's History of English Literature.
Bronson's English Essays.

THIRD YEAR.

1. English Bible Study.
The Epistles of Paul with Introduction by Findlay.
2. Theology.
An Outline of Christian Theology (Clarke).
3. Modern Church History (Slater).
4. Biblical Introduction.
Origin and Nature of the Bible (Dods).
5. Sociology.
The Spirit of Social Work (Devine).

Required Reading:

The Methodist Church and Missions (Sutherland).
The Heart of Szechwan (Wallace).
The Heart of Japan (Addison).

The above Theological Courses shall be taken by medical missionaries who are graduates in Arts as well as by those who are not.

532.

FRENCH COURSE.

The Board of Examiners in any Conference where French Missions are needed shall appoint a committee with authority to make such changes in the following course of study as may be deemed expedient.

Introduction.

1. Grammaire Française et Composition.
2. Arithmétique et Géographie.
3. Rhétorique (Girard).
4. Catéchisme Méthodiste, No. II.
5. Articles de Relligion et Régles Générales de l'Eglise Méthodiste.

Première Année.

1. Vie de Jean Wesley (Lellèvre).
 2. Voie du Salut (Wesley).
 3. Perfection Chrétienne (Wesley).
 4. Manuel de la Bible (Angus), 1ère Partie, Chaps. I. à III.
 5. Etude Biblique (Godet), Vol. I.
 6. Histoire de la Réformation (D'Aubigné), Vol. I.
 7. Eptre de Jacques (Chapuis).
 8. Grammaire Grecque.
 9. Grammaire Latine.
- On requiert la lectures des Sermons de Wesley, 1ère Serie, No. I, à XXVI.

Deuxième Année.

1. Manuel de la Bible (Angus), 1ère Partie, Chaps. IV. à VII.
2. Etude Biblique (Godet), Vol. II.
3. Histoire de la Réformation (D'Aubigné), Vol. II.
4. Histoire de la Littérature Française (Vinet), Vol. I.
5. Philosophie (Traité Elementaire par Janet), pp. 1-316.
6. Histoire de l'Eglise (Bonneton).
7. Histoire Générale (Duruy).
8. Nouveau Testament Grec, 1er Chap. St. Jean, ou Nouveau Testament Latin, 1er Chap. St. Jean.

Troisième Année.

1. Manuel de la Bible (Angus), 2me Partie, Chaps. I. à IV.
2. Histoire de la Réformation (D'Aubigné), Vol. III.
3. Histoire de la Littérature Française (Vinet), Vol. II.
4. Histoire des Dogmes (Bonifas), Vol. I.
5. Homilétique (Vinet).
6. Philosophie Elémentaire (Janet), pp. 317-375.
7. Traité de la Vérité de la Religion Chrétienne (Abbadie), Vol. I.
8. Nouveau Testament Grec (Sermon sur la Montagne), ou Nouveau Testament Latin (Sermon sur la Montagne).

Quatrième Année.

1. Manuel de la Bible (Angus), 2me Partie, Chaps. V. à VII.
2. Histoire de la Réformation (D'Aubigné), Vols. IV. et V.
3. Histoire des Dogmes (Bonifas), Vol. II.
4. Traité de la Vérité de la Religion Chrétienne (Abbadie), Vol. II.
5. Philosophie Elémentaire (Janet), pp. 716-951.
6. Cours de Physique sans Mathématiques (Ganot).
7. Manuel de Controverse (Dr. Malan).
8. Le Saint Esprit (Tophel).
9. Discipline de l'Eglise Méthodiste.

All of the above books in the French Course of Study, except the last, may at present be obtained from M. A. Chastel, Librairie Evangélique, 4 Rue Roquépine, Paris, France.

533. COURSE OF STUDY FOR EVANGELISTS IN THE JAPANESE WORK.

1. Apologetics (Bruce).
2. Theology.

Wesley's Sermons: Burwash's Manual of Christian Theology; Stevens' Theology of the New Testament.

3. Biblical Introduction.

Old Testament (Wright); New Testament (Dods).

4. Exegesis.

Old Testament—Exodus, Psalms, Isaiah; New Testament—Luke, Acts, Hebrews.

5. History.

Old Testament (Ammerman); New Testament, The Incarnate Saviour (translation); work based on Ramsay's Paul, the Traveller and Roman Citizen; History of Doctrine (Sheldon); History of Methodism (Chappell and Stevens).

6. Homiletics.

Yamaka (translation).

7. Pastoral Theology.

The Christian Pastor and the Working Church (Gladden).

534. SPECIAL COURSE FOR NATIVE MISSIONARIES.

Native Japanese, Chinese, Indian, and other non-English-speaking candidates for the ministry may pursue a special course of study to be framed by the Conference Board of Examiners, or the Mission Council, it being understood that the work prescribed shall harmonize, as far as possible, with the Ordinary Course of Study.

535. COURSE OF STUDY FOR DEACONESES.

The Board of Management may vary the Course of Study to meet the circumstances and needs of individual students, and the possibilities of the Training School, when deemed advisable.

JUNIOR YEAR.

Between the Testaments Period.	Missions in the Sunday School.
New Testament History, etc.	History of Missions.
Life of Christ.	History of Religious Educa- tion.
Life and Doctrines of St. Paul.	Sociology.
Practical Theology.	Social Reform.
English Bible.	Kitchen Garden.
Personal Evangelism.	First Aid.
Public Prayer.	Physical Development of the Child.
Practical English.	Mental Development of the Child.
Public Speaking.	Sewing.
Choral Work.	Physical Culture.
The League at Work.	Hymnology.
Psychology.	Laundry Work.
Girls' Club.	
Mission Study.	

Field Work.

Social Excursions.	Visiting Model Leagues.
Social Observations.	Visiting Model Sunday Schools.

SENIOR YEAR.

Old Testament History, etc.	Pedagogy.
Prophets of the Old Testa- ment.	Work with Boys.
Hebrew Poetry.	Nursing and Preventive Medicine.
John and the First Epistle.	Playground Work.
Methodist Discipline.	Kindergarten Work.
Church History.	Household Science.
Homiletics.	Sewing.
Practical English and Composition.	Physical Culture.
Public Speaking.	Deaconess Work.
Choral Work.	Conduct of Religious Meetings.
The Modern Sunday School	Teacher Training Class.

Field Work.

Church Visitation.	Practical Nursing.
Church Records.	Social Excursions.
Practical Kindergarten Work.	Visiting Model Sunday Schools.

READING COURSE.

Before being licensed as Deaconesses, probationers must pass a test on the following books during the years indicated.

First Year.

- "The Meaning of Prayer" (Fosdick).
- "Social Diagnosis" (Mary E. Richmond).
- "Work and Teachings of the Earlier Prophets" (Kent-Smith).

And one of the following:

- "The Delinquent Child and the Home" (Brackenridge and Abbott).
- "Canadian Civics" (Jenkins).
- "Social Problems" (Towne).
- "Community Centre Activities" (Perry).

Second Year.

- "The Meaning of Faith" (Fosdick).
- "Handbook of Paul" (Burton).
- "His Dominion" (Gunn).

And one of the following:

- "The Church Vacational School" (Chappell).
- "The Individual Delinquent" (Healey).
- "Boyhood and Lawlessness and the Neglected Girl" (Trew).
- "The Education of the New Canadian" (J. T. M. Anderson).
- "Social Service Magazine."

APPENDIX III.

I. GENERAL CONFERENCE OFFICERS.

General Superintendent:

REV. S. D. CHOWN, D.D., LL.D., Toronto, Ont.

Secretary:

REV. T. ALBERT MOORE, D.D., Toronto, Ont.

Assistant Secretaries:

W. E. WILLMOTT, D.D.S., Toronto, Ont.

REV. WM. I. CROFT, Digby, N.S.

REV. GEORGE W. BARKER, Burlington, Ont.

MR. R. W. CLARKE, Weyburn, Sask.

II. CONNEXIONAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES.

1. GENERAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

REV. S. D. CHOWN, D.D., General Superintendent.

REV. T. ALBERT MOORE, D.D., Secretary General Conference.

TORONTO CONFERENCE.

Ministers—Rev. R. J. D. Simpson, J. A. Long, Ph.D.

Laymen—W. J. Fawcett, Toronto; R. G. Kirby, Toronto;
T. W. Duggan, Brampton.

LONDON CONFERENCE.

Ministers—S. L. Toll, A. J. Langford.

Layman—Wm. Heaman, London, Ont.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

HAMILTON CONFERENCE.

Minister—John W. Cooley.

Laymen—R. W. Treleaven, Hamilton, Ont.; E. H. Cleaver, Burlington, Ont.

BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE.

Minister—S. C. Moore.

Laymen—H. C. Latimer, Beaverton, Ont.; F. E. O'Flynn, K.C., Belleville, Ont.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE.

Ministers—George S. Clendinnen, S.T.L.; W. S. Lennon, B.A., B.D.

Layman—Elmer Davis, Kingston, Ont.

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AND NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCES.

Ministers—D. W. Johnson, M.A., D.D.; George M. Young.

Layman—A. Soper, St. John's, Nfld.

MANITOBA, ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN AND BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCES.

Ministers—A. Stewart, B.A., D.D.; Ernest Thomas.

Laymen—J. F. Middlemiss, Wolseley, Sask.; S. A. G. Barnes, B.A., Edmonton, Alta.

2. COURT OF APPEAL.

The General Superintendent.

Ministers.

T. A. Moore, D.D.

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Alfred Price.
E. H. Grandell.
Wesley Hoople.
A. H. Clarke, K.C.
S. F. McEwen, M.D.
W. H. Craig.
Hon. E. Michener.
W. E. Payne.
M. A. Brown.
G. D. Stanley, M.D.
J. H. Rivers, M.D.

And the Board is given power to add four more to its number.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF RYERSON COLLEGE, VANCOUVER.

Ministers.

W. J. Sipprell, B.A., D.D.
 S. S. Osterhout, Ph.D.
 W. W. Abbott, B.A., B.D.
 D. M. Perley, B.A., B.D.
 F. N. Stapleford, M.A., B.D.
 J. G. Brown, M.A., B.D.
 Ernest Thomas.
 A. E. Hetherington, B.A.,
 B.D.
 R. J. McIntyre.
 W. L. Hall, B.A., B.D.
 F. W. Hardy, M.A., B.D.
 A. M. Sanford, B.A., D.D.
 J. H. White, D.D.
 John Robson, B.A.
 F. W. Langford, B.A.
 C. F. Connor, M.A., B.D.
 William Vance, B.A.
 Lt.-Col. G. O. Fallis, B.A.
 J. C. Switzer, B.A.

Laymen.

W. H. Malkin.
 Chris. Spencer.
 Dr. J. G. Davidson.
 William Savage.
 A. L. Johnson.
 W. P. Argue.
 Dr. S. D. Scott, M.A.
 J. W. Jones.
 William Manson.
 H. W. Riggs, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.
 R. W. Harris, K.C.
 George Bell, M.P.P.
 John Nelson.
 Robert Beard.
 E. S. Knowlton.
 David Spencer.
 D. S. Curtis.
 Joseph Patrick.
 Edgar Murphy, M.A.

6. BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES.

Rev. S. D. Chown, D.D., *General Superintendent.*

“ Frank Langford, B.A., *General Secretary.*

“ Manson Doyle, B.A., *Assistant Secretary.*

“ W. E. Galloway, B.A., *Field Secretary.*

Mr. A. E. Plewman, *Treasurer.*

Rev. A. C. Crews, D.D., *Editor S. S. Periodicals.*

“ F. C. Stephenson, M.D., *Secretary Forward Movement for Missions.*

TORONTO CONFERENCE.

Minister—C. Elmer Kenny, B.A.

Layman—Thos. H. Graham.

Alternate—Rev. C. W. Follett.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

LONDON CONFERENCE.

Minister—B. Snell.
Layman—E. B. Hale.
Alternate—E. S. Hunt.

HAMILTON CONFERENCE.

Minister—C. D. Draper.
Layman—A. H. Lambert.
Alternate—Rev. W. S. Daniels, B.A., B.D.

BAY OF QUINTE.

Minister—H. W. Foley, B.A., B.D.
Layman—T. F. Harrison.
Alternate—Rev. R. A. Whattam.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE.

Minister—J. K. Curtis, B.A.
Layman—Lorne C. Webster.
Alternate—Rev. Thos. Brown, B.D.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.

Minister—H. J. Indoe, M.A.
Layman—J. T. Wilson.
Alternate—Rev. F. Friggens.

NEW BRUNSWICK AND P. E. I. CONFERENCE.

Minister—Geo. F. Dawson, M.A.
Layman—R. Duncan Smith.
Alternate—Rev. H. E. Thomas.

NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE.

Minister—Wm. J. Morris.
Layman—A. Penny.
Alternate—Rev. Levi Curtis, M.A., D.D.

MANITOBA CONFERENCE.

Minister—T. W. Price, B.A.
Layman—M. E. Broughton.
Alternate—Rev. A. W. Kenner, B.A.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

SASKATCHEWAN CONFERENCE.

Minister—Warren Rothwell, B.A., B.D.

Layman—R. W. Clarke.

Alternate—W. J. Orchard.

ALBERTA CONFERENCE.

Minister—A. A. Lytle.

Layman—W. A. Stickle, B.A.

Alternate—R. W. Hedley, B.A.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.

Minister—O. M. Sanford.

Layman—W. E. Pinchin.

Alternate—Rev. Frank W. Hardy, M.A., B.D.

7. SUPERANNUATION FUND BOARD.

Rev. S. D. Chown, D.D., *General Superintendent.*

Rev. R. J. D. Simpson, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

H. C. Cox, Esq., *Lay Treasurer.*

TORONTO CONFERENCE.

Minister—T. E. Bartley, D.D.

Layman—Miles Vokes.

LONDON CONFERENCE.

Minister—J. Edwin J. Millyard.

Layman—J. C. Hay.

HAMILTON CONFERENCE.

Minister—J. S. Ross, M.A., D.D.

Layman—D. B. Colbeck.

BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE.

Minister—W. B. Tucker, B.A., B.D.

Layman—John A. Holgate.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE.

Minister—Robert Smith.

Layman—W. T. Rodgers.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

MANITOBA CONFERENCE.

Minister—M. C. Flatt.

Layman—Hamilton Armstrong.

SASKATCHEWAN CONFERENCE.

Minister—G. K. B. Adams.

Layman—A. W. Irwin.

ALBERTA CONFERENCE.

Minister—R. E. Finlay, B.A.

Layman—J. F. Fowler.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.

Minister—R. J. McIntyre.

Layman—R. H. Kearns.

NEW BRUNSWICK CONFERENCE.

Minister—Geo. M. Young.

Layman—J. M. Palmer, LL.D.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.

Minister—J. W. McConnell.

Layman—Judge Chesley.

NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE.

Minister—Levi Curtis, D.D.

Layman—Andrew Vatcher.

8. BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND SOCIAL SERVICE.

Rev. S. D. Chown, D.D., *General Superintendent*.

" T. Albert Moore, D.D., *General Secretary*.

" J. H. Hazlewood, D.D., *Field Secretary*.

" Hugh Dobson, B.A., D.D., *Field Secretary*.

" W. E. Millson, *Field Secretary*.

A. D. Watson, M.D., F.R.S.C., *Treasurer*.

ONTARIO GROUP.

Toronto Conference.

Minister—Peter Bryce.

Layman—J. O. McCarthy, Toronto, Ont.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

London Conference.

Minister—A. E. M. Thompson, B.A., B.D.

Layman—John Ferguson, Sarnia, Ont.

Hamilton Conference.

Minister—J. H. McBain, B.A.

Layman—Samuel Carter, M.P.P., Guelph, Ont.

Bay of Quinte Conference.

Minister—Captain John Garbutt.

Layman—H. K. Denyes, Halloway, Ont.

Montreal Conference.

Minister—A. A. Radley.

Layman—H. W. Mix, Ottawa, Ont.

QUEBEC GROUP.

Ministers—Wm. Timberlake, B. B. Brown.

Laymen—W. D. Lambly, M.D., Montreal, P.Q.; S. J. Carter,
Montreal, P.Q.

Nova Scotia Conference.

Ministers—F. Friggens, C. E. Crowell, B.A.

Laymen—M. E. Armstrong, M.D., Bridgetown, N.S.; J. T.
Burchell, Sydney, N.S.

New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Conference.

Ministers—J. J. Pinkerton, H. A. Goodwin.

Laymen—Howard Rogers, Fredericton, N.B.; J. Willard
Smith, St. John, N.B.

Newfoundland Conference.

Minister—Edwin Moore.

Layman—A. Soper, St. John's, Nfld.

Manitoba Conference.

Ministers—A. E. Smith, G. F. McCullagh.

Laymen—Will Gibben, Winnipeg, Man.; F. A. E. Hamilton,
B.A., Winnipeg, Man.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

Saskatchewan Conference.

Ministers—W. W. Andrews, LL.D., H. G. Cairns.

Laymen—H. E. Sampson, Regina, Sask.; E. B. Tedford, Mortlach, Sask.

Alberta Conference.

Ministers—G. G. Webber, J. Coulter, B.A.

Laymen—A. E. Archer, M.D., Paken, Alta.; C. H. Cunnings, Ponoka, Alta.

British Columbia Conference.

Ministers—E. Thomas, W. L. Hall, B.A., B.D.

Laymen—C. E. Mahon, Vancouver, B.C.; John Nelson, Vancouver, B.C.

Each Annual Conference shall elect annually as many members as have been elected by the General Conference.

9. BOARD OF FINANCE.

TORONTO CONFERENCE.

Minister—E. J. Adams.

Layman—J. H. Gundy.

LONDON CONFERENCE.

Minister—H. A. Graham, B.A.

Layman—F. B. Holtby.

HAMILTON CONFERENCE.

Minister—T. Albert Moore, D.D.

Layman—Cyrus Birge.

BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE.

Minister—A. J. Terrill, B.A., B.D.

Layman—M. C. Bogart.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE.

Minister—C. S. Deepprose.

Layman—W. A. Oliver.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.

Minister—A. S. Rogers, B.A., B.D.

Layman—J. T. Burchell.

NEW BRUNSWICK AND P.E.I. CONFERENCE.

Minister—Thomas Marshall.

Layman—William B. Snowball.

NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE.

Minister—J. R. Saint, B.A., D.D.

Layman—A. Soper.

MANITOBA CONFERENCE.

Minister—B. W. Allison.

Layman—G. C. Sharpe.

SASKATCHEWAN CONFERENCE.

Minister—M. M. Bennett, B.A.

Layman—A. Gowler.

ALBERTA CONFERENCE.

Minister—Joseph Coulter, B.A.

Layman—C. F. Adams.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.

Minister—W. Lashley Hall, B.A., B.D.

Layman—Joseph Patrick.

10. COMMITTEE ON SCHEDULES AND DISTRICT BOOKS.

Rev. C. D. Baldwin.

Rev. J. E. Peters, B.A.

| E. S. Caswell.

11. COMMITTEE ON CHURCH UNION.

Ministers.

S. D. Chown, D.D.

R. J. D. Simpson.

R. P. Bowles, D.D., LL.D.

F. L. Brown.

J. W. Cooley,

Laymen.

N. W. Rowell, Esq., K.C.,
M.P.

Sir J. W. Flavelle.

C. D. Massey.

H. H. Fudger.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH UNION—*Continued.*

Ministers.

T. Albert Moore, D.D.
J. S. Ross, M.A., D.D.
G. W. Barker.
D. N. McCamus.
J. W. Graham, D.D., LL.D.
W. B. Creighton, B.A., D.D.
S. J. Shorey, D.D.
S. C. Moore, B.D.
W. B. Tucker, B.D.
S. P. Rose, M.A., D.D.
G. S. Clendinnen, S.T.L.
P. L. Richardson, B.A., D.D.
W. T. G. Brown, B.A., B.D.
George Steel, D.D.
Thomas Marshall.
W. H. Heartz, D.D.
G. W. F. Glendenning, M.A.
Levi Curtis, B.A., D.D.
W. A. Cooke, B.A., D.D.
John Maclean, D.D.
M. M. Bennett, B.A.
O. Darwin, D.D.
Thos. C. Buchanan, D.D.
G. W. Kerby, B.A., D.D.
J. H. White, D.D.
James Endicott, B.A., D.D.
Chas. E. Manning, B.A.

Laymen.

Hon. Justice J. J. Maclaren.
Sir William Hearst, LL.D.,
G.C.M.G.
A. W. Briggs, K.C.
C. A. Birge.
H. P. Moore.
Joseph Gibson.
Samuel Carter, M.P.P.
F. B. Holtby.
J. C. Hay.
M. A. James.
Elmer Davis.
C. W. Cate, K.C.
Irwin Hilliard, K.C., M.P.P.
W. H. Goodwin.
Hon. Chief Justice McKeown.
David Allison, LL.D.
His Honor Judge Chesley.
J. T. Burchell.
John Leamon.
Lieut.-Governor Sir J. A. M.
Aikins.
E. O. Jolliffe.
Lieut.-Col. C. B. Keenleyside.
Hon. Chief Justice Brown.
W. G. Hunt.
Hon. W. H. Cushing.
Joseph Patrick.

12. FRATERNAL DELEGATES.

TO THE METHODIST CHURCHES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Rev. Wm. Sparling, B.A., D.D

TO THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Rev. T. Albert Moore, D.D.

TO THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

Rev. Salem G. Bland, B.A., D.D.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

13. DEACONESS SOCIETY BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

Rev. S. D. Chown, D.D., *General Superintendent.*

Rev. J. W. Graham, D.D., LL.D., *General Secretary of Education.*

Rev. Frank Langford, B.A., *General Secretary of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies.*

Rev. T. Albert Moore, D.D., *General Secretary Evangelism and Social Service.*

Mrs. W. E. Ross, *President Woman's Missionary Society.*

Rev. Hiram Hull, B.A., *Principal of Methodist National Training School and Superintendent of Deaconess Work.*

Ministers.

T. W. Neal.

Wm. Sparling, B.A., D.D.

E. I. Hart, B.A., D.D.

John A. Doyle.

W. J. Sipprell, M.A., D.D.

Laymen.

J. E. Carson.

F. W. Winter.

Stephen Syer.

Laymen—Continued.

H. L. Frost.

T. F. Harrison.

Women.

Mrs. U. Ogden.

" G. P. McKay.

" A. M. Phillips

" N. A. Powell.

" G. N. Jackson.

14. TO EDIT THE DISCIPLINE.

Editor.—Rev. T. Albert Moore, D.D.

CONSULTATION COMMITTEE.

Rev. S. D. Chown, D.D.

Hon. Justice Maclaren, D.C.L., LL.D.

A. W. Briggs, K.C.

APPENDIX IV.

47 VICTORIA, R.S.C., CHAP. 106.

AN ACT RESPECTING THE UNION OF CERTAIN METH-
ODIST CHURCHES THEREIN NAMED, AS AMENDED
BY 2 GEO. V. CHAPTER 116.

[Assented to 19th April, 1884.]

Preamble. WHEREAS The Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, the Primitive Methodist Church in Canada, and the Bible Christian Church of Canada, have agreed to unite under the name of "The Methodist Church," on the Basis of Union adopted by the said four denominations—which said Basis of Union is set forth in Schedule A of this Act, and the rules, regulations, and Discipline also adopted by the said four denominations in a General Convention or Conference assembled at the City of Belleville on the fifth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three; and whereas the said four denominations have, by petition, set forth that they are desirous of having the said Union ratified, and that they may be incorporated under the name of "The Methodist Church," with power to hold all the property, real and personal, belonging to the said four denom-

inations, upon the trusts and for the purposes herein-
after set out; and whereas it is expedient to grant the
prayer of the said petition; therefore Her Majesty, by
and with the advice and consent of the Senate and
House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

**Certain persons
incorporated.**

1. The Reverend Samuel Dwight Rice,
D.D., President of the General Conference
of The Methodist Church of Canada; the Reverend
Albert Carman, D.D., Bishop of the Methodist Epis-
copal Church in Canada; the Reverend J. Goodman,
President of the Primitive Methodist Church in Can-
ada; the Reverend W. Pascoe, President of the Bible
Christian Church of Canada, and the Reverend
Alexander Sutherland, D.D., Secretary of the Joint
Committee on Union, and all members of the said
General Convention or Conference, together with all
other persons who now are ministers or members of any
one of the said four denominations, or who, under the
said Basis of Union, rules, regulations, and discipline,
are now or may hereafter become members of the said
Methodist Church, are hereby constituted and declared
to be a body corporate and politic, by the
name of "The Methodist Church."

**Corporate
name.**

**Objects of
corporation.**

2. The objects of the said corporation
are as set out in the said Basis of Union,
rules, regulations, and discipline.

**Copies of cer-
tain documents
to be evidence.**

3. All copies of the said Basis of Union,
rules, regulations, and discipline, or any
amendments or alteration thereof published in any
book of discipline or journal of conference under the

direction or authority of the General Conference of the said Church, or a copy of any by-law or resolution of the said General Conference, under the seal of the corporation, and signed by the secretary, shall be *prima facie* evidence in all courts of the contents thereof.

Powers of corporation as to real or personal estate now held by the four denominations.

4. All the estate, real and personal, belonging to, held in trust for, or to the use of the said denominations or any of them, or belonging to or held in trust for or to the use of any corporation under the government or control of any of the said four denominations, shall henceforth be held and vested in the said corporation, and shall be used and administered for the benefit of the said Methodist Church.

Certain property vested in the corporation in trust.

5. All the property, real and personal, under the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada, held in trust for or to the use of any congregation, congregations, circuit, station or mission, of any of the said four denominations, is hereby vested in the said Church, and shall be held for the use of such congregation or congregations, circuit or mission in connection with the said Methodist Church upon the trusts and subject to the provisions set forth in Schedule B of this Act; and all lands and premises acquired by or for the said corporation for a church, chapel, meeting house, parsonage, school building or burial ground in connection with any congregation or congregations, circuit, station or mission, shall be held, used and administered upon the said trusts, and the

respective trustees thereof shall hold, use, and administer the same in trust for the said corporation upon the trusts set forth in the said schedule, [and such trustees and their successors from time to time appointed under the provisions of the said Schedule B may also receive, hold, use, administer, and dispose of any property, real or personal, devised, bequeathed, given or transferred to them for the special use of the said congregation, circuit, station or mission, by way of endowment or otherwise, in accordance with the trusts declared in the will, deed or other instrument creating such trust, and not contrary to the by-laws, rules, and regulations of the said corporation; and in the event of the failure or partial failure of any trusts so declared, the same may be held, used, administered or disposed of for such purposes and in such manner, from time to time provided by the by-laws, rules, or regulations of the said corporation, as are not inconsistent with this Act, and subject, as regards any real or personal property, to such provincial law as may apply thereto.] 2 Geo. V., ch. 116, sec. 1.

Effect of Schedule B, as to interpretation of certain documents.

6. In any deed or conveyance to said trustees the form of words contained in column one of the said Schedule B and distinguished by any number therein, shall be taken to be equivalent to the form of words contained in column two of the said Schedule B and distinguished by the same number.

Appointment
or removal of
officers and ser-
vants, and mak-
ing or altering
by-laws, etc.

7. Subject to the provisions of the said Basis of Union, the said corporation may, from time to time, appoint and, as they see occasion, remove all officers, agents, and servants, and from time to time make, alter or vary any by-laws, rules or regulations touching and concerning the time and place of holding meetings and notices thereof, and for the good ordering, discipline, and government of the said Church, and the performance of divine worship in any of the churches of the said corporation, and all matters respecting the same, and all other matters and things which to them seem good, fit, and useful for the well ordering, governing, and advancement of the said Church.

Boards and com-
mittees for cer-
tain purposes.

8. 1. The said corporation may appoint boards or committees composed of the members thereof, to take charge of or deal with and dispose of the respective funds, including book and publishing interests and other interests, belonging to the said Church, as set out in their Basis of Union and in accordance therewith, and may establish such other funds as may be deemed expedient, and may appoint boards or committees of the members of the said corporation to take charge of, deal with, and dispose of the said funds so formed, in accordance with the provisions of the said Basis of Union.

[2. The said corporation may authorize and empower any annual conference from time to time existing to establish, by resolution of the said conference, city mission boards or church extension boards, or either,

in accordance with the by-laws, rules or regulations of the corporation; and every such board so established shall be a body corporate, with such membership, organization, powers, rights, and duties as are not contrary to law nor inconsistent with this Act, including the acquiring, holding, administration and disposal of any property, real or personal, for such purposes of the said board as are defined from time to time by the corporation.

3. The said corporation may authorize and empower any annual conference from time to time existing to establish, by resolution of the said conference, a board of trust in accordance with the by-laws, rules or regulations of the corporation; and every such board so established shall be a body corporate, with such membership, organization, powers, rights and duties, as are not contrary to law nor inconsistent with this Act, including the acquiring, holding, administration and disposal of all property, real or personal, which may be devised, bequeathed, granted or conveyed to such board for the purposes of the Church within the bounds of such conference as are defined from time to time by the corporation.] 2 Geo. V., ch. 116, sec. 2.

Gifts of real estate for the use of the corporation.

Proviso: for alienation of realty not occupied.

9. Subject to the provisions in section five hereinbefore contained, the said corporation may receive voluntary conveyances of, and may purchase, hold, and convey such real estate as the purposes of the said corporation require: Provided that the corporation shall, within ten years after its

acquisition of any such real estate, sell or otherwise dispose of and alienate so much of such real estate as is not required for the use and occupation or other like purposes of the corporation.

Real and personal estate

may be acquired by devise.

10. Subject to the provisions in the said section five hereinbefore contained, the said corporation shall be capable of taking, holding, and receiving any real or personal estate by virtue of any devise contained in any last will and testament

Proviso: to be subject to certain rules of law.

of any person whatever: Provided always that such devise of real estate shall be subject to the laws respecting devises of real estate to religious corporations in force at the time of such devise, in the Province in which such real estate is situated, so far as the same apply to the said corporation.

As to disposal of such estate.

11. 1. The said corporation shall have authority to alienate, exchange, demise, let or lease for any term of years such messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments, and immovable property as shall be given, granted, purchased, appropriated, devised or bequeathed to the said corporation for all or any of the purposes thereof, subject to the proviso in section nine contained.

[2. The said corporation, or any body corporate created under the provisions of this Act, or any trustees appointed under Schedule B hereto, may, in the manner authorized by the by-laws, rules or regulations of the said corporation, give, grant, convey or otherwise alienate any property, real or personal, held by them

respectively, to any other church, corporation or missionary organization, or any trustees thereof, in pursuance of any agreement or understanding entered into, with such church, corporation, or missionary organization, for co-operation in carrying on religious work.] 2 Geo. V., ch. 116, sec. 3.

Application of funds of corporation.

12. The said corporation shall have

power to make advances, by way of loan or gift, out of its funds not required to meet ordinary expenses and disbursements, to assist in the erection or maintenance of colleges, schools, or parsonages, as the General Conference or committee having charge of the fund may direct; and may take or hold any real or personal estate or securities there-

Security to be taken for debts, etc.

on mortgaged or assigned to the said corporation to secure payment of such loan, or to secure payment of any debts or demands due to the said corporation, and may proceed on such mortgages, assignments or other securities for the recovery of the money thereby secured either at law or in equity or otherwise: and generally may pursue the same course, exercise the same powers,

and take and use the same remedies to enforce the payment of any debt or demand due to the said corporation as any individual or body corporate may, by law, take or use for like purpose.

General powers.

Investment of funds of corporation, and on what securities.

13. The said corporation may, for the

purpose of investment, lend money upon the security of real estate, purchase debentures of municipal or public school corporations, or

Dominion or Provincial stock or securities, may sell any such securities as to it may seem advisable, and for that purpose may execute such assignments or other instruments as are necessary for carrying the same into effect; and for such purposes of investment, may make advances to any person or persons or body corporate upon any of the above mentioned securities at such rate

Interest. of interest, not exceeding eight per cent. per annum, as is agreed upon: Provided,

Proviso. however, that nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to limit the power of such corporation to make such investments of its capital or surplus income which it otherwise has by virtue of its corporate existence.

Borrowing powers of corporation.

14. The said corporation shall have power to borrow any sum or sums of money from banks or other corporations, or from private persons, as in the opinion of the General Conference or the board or committee having charge of any of the funds of the said corporation, may be required for the purposes thereof, and may, under the direction of the said General Conference or committee having charge of such fund, hypothecate, mortgage or pledge so much of the real or personal property held in trust for such fund as is necessary to secure any sum or sums of money so borrowed.

Provision as to trusts.

15. The real and personal property which may become vested in the said corporation, and which heretofore has been held by or in

trust for any one of the said churches or denominations upon any special trust for missionary or other purposes, shall, subject to the provisions of the Basis of Union, until otherwise directed by the General Conference, on the advice of the board or committee having charge of the fund, be held upon similar trusts and for similar purposes.

Duplicate seal
for each confer-
ence; custody
and use thereof.

16. The said corporation may provide a duplicate of the seal thereof for each of the Annual Conferences from time to time existing, and the custody of the said seal shall be as may be directed by the said corporation, and the same may be affixed by such officers as the said General Conference by by-law or resolution directs; and until direction by the said General Conference, the same may be affixed to any conveyance of property within the bounds of any of the said annual conferences by the president or secretary of such annual conference, and may, for the purpose of conveying any property in charge of any board or committee of the said corporation, be affixed by the chairman of the said board or committee, or such other officer as the board or committee directs.

Certain resolu-
tions to have
force of by-laws.

17. All resolutions passed by the General Conference of the said corporation shall have the force and effect of by-laws, and no formal by-law shall be required for the purpose of managing the affairs of the said corporation.

DOMINION ACT.

As to debts
secured on prop-
erty trans-
ferred to the
corporation.

18. The said corporation in receiving, taking or holding any property heretofore held by any of the said four denominations, shall not in any wise become responsible or liable for the debts or obligations which have been contracted in respect thereto, but the property specially charged with the said debts, and persons who have become liable in respect to the said debts or obligations, shall remain liable in the same manner and to the same degree as if the said union had not been effected, or this Act had not been passed, save in so far as the said corporation by the Basis of Union, has undertaken the payment of any such debts or obligations.

Basis of Union
adopted at Belle-
ville confirmed
and declared
binding.

19. The said Basis of Union adopted by the said four denominations, and the rules, regulations and discipline also adopted by the said four denominations in the said General Conference or Convention held at the said City of Belleville, are hereby declared to be binding on the said corporation and all the members thereof, until the same shall have been altered or varied in accordance with the provisions therein contained, and the officers and boards of management appointed by the said General Conference or Convention are hereby declared invested with the powers sought or declared to be conferred upon them by the said Convention or Conference.

Certain rights
saved.

20. Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect any existing right or interest in the Superannuation Fund of any of the said

four denominations, or any cause of action in respect thereof.

Commence-
ment of Act.

21. This Act shall come into force on the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four; nevertheless, the annual conferences of any of the said four denominations which have not met before the said date, may meet during the said month of June to complete the business of the year.

Repeal of
inconsistent
enactments.

22. All Acts and portions of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, in so far as may be necessary to give full effect to this Act.

SCHEDULE A.

THE BASIS OF UNION.

BETWEEN

THE METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA, THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA, THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA, AND THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, AS ADOPTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE CONFERENCES.

I. DOCTRINES, GENERAL RULES, ORDINANCES, ETC.

The Doctrinal Basis of the United Church shall be the Standards of Doctrine and Articles of Religion

contained in the Book of Discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada, edition of 1879, from p. 13 to p. 21. That portion of the Book of Discipline of the said Methodist Church of Canada, edition of 1879, from p. 21 to p. 33, referring to General Rules, Ordinances, Reception of Members, and Means of Grace, is also adopted as a part of the Basis.

II. CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

1. *The General Conference.*

1. There shall be a Quadrennial General Conference, composed of an equal number of Ministerial and Lay Delegates, elected as hereinafter provided, with power to make rules and regulations for the entire Church. (See "Annual Conferences," par 9.)

2. No change shall be made in the Basis of Union affecting constitutional questions, or the rights and privileges of Ministry or Laity, excepting by a three-fourths majority of the General Conference, and, if required by either order of Ministry or Laity, a two-thirds majority of each order, voting separately.

3. There shall be one or more Itinerant General Superintendents elected by the General Conference, to hold office for the term of eight years. But if it be decided at the meeting of the General Conference after Union to elect two General Superintendents, one of them shall be elected for four years only, so that there may be a recurring election or re-election every four years.

4. A General Superintendent shall preside over all Sessions of the General Conference, and over all Standing Committees of the same.

2. *Annual Conferences.*

1. The territory occupied by the Church shall be divided into Conferences as the General Conference may from time to time direct.

2. Each Annual Conference shall be composed of all ministers in full connexion within its bounds, and an equal number of laymen, elected as elsewhere provided. (See "District Meetings," par 6.)

3. Laymen elected shall have the right to be present at all ordinary sessions of the Annual Conference, and to speak and vote on all questions, except the examination of ministerial character and qualification; the reception, by vote, of probationers into full connexion, and their ordination; and the granting of the superannuated or supernumerary relation, on which exceptive questions ministers alone shall take action. In case any minister's character shall be arrested, it shall be competent for the ministerial members to meet in special session to examine into the case and pronounce judgment, reporting their action to the mixed Conference—such report to be for information and record, and not for discussion.

4. Each Annual Conference shall have authority to elect a President from among its ministerial members.

5. The General Superintendent, when present, shall open the Annual Conference, and preside during the

first day of its sessions, and afterward alternately with the President elected by the Conference. In the absence of a General Superintendent, the President of the previous year shall take the chair and open the Conference. In association with the President, the General Superintendent shall conduct the ordination service, and they shall jointly sign the Ordination Parchments. But all other duties pertaining to the presidency of the Annual Conference shall be vested in the President elected by that body, and in the absence of the General Superintendent he shall conduct the ordination service.

6. The President of the Annual Conference shall be, *ex officio*, Superintendent of the District in which he may be stationed during the year of his presidency.

7. The Annual Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a Secretary or Secretaries as the case may require.

8. The Annual Conference shall elect by ballot, without debate, a Superintendent for each District from among the ordained ministers within the bounds of such District.

9. Each Annual Conference, at the session next preceding the session of each General Conference, shall divide into Ministerial and Lay Electoral Conferences for the purpose of electing delegates to the General Conference, each body electing its own Representatives. The delegates shall be elected from within the bounds of the said Conference, and votes shall be by ballot.

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10. Each Annual Conference shall have a Stationing Committee, composed of the President of the Conference (who shall preside in the committee), the Superintendents of Districts, and one Minister elected by each District Meeting, such election to be by the joint votes of ministers and laymen.

11. Each Annual Conference shall have authority to elect into full connexion and ordain any probationer within its bounds who has travelled four years and fulfilled all Disciplinary requirements. Also, to elect and ordain probationers of less than four years' standing, when the necessities of the work require it.

12. All preachers who have received ordination in any of the uniting bodies, and are in good standing at the time of the Union, shall retain all rights and privileges conferred by such ordination.

3. District Meetings.

1. The territory occupied by each Annual Conference shall be divided into Districts.

2. Each Annual District Meeting shall consist of all the Ministers and Probationers for the ministry within its bounds, and one lay delegate for each minister or probationer in the active work, from each circuit, mission, or station throughout the District; said delegates to be elected by the Quarterly Official Meetings as hereinafter provided.

3. Each District shall be under the supervision of a presiding officer, to be called the District Superin-

tendent, who shall be elected by the Annual Conference, as elsewhere provided. He shall preside in the District Meetings, oversee the temporal and spiritual interests of the Church in his District; and, with the ministers and probationers under his charge, shall administer and enforce the Discipline of the Church, being responsible therefor to the Annual Conference.

4. The District Superintendent shall fix the time and place of the *first* District Meeting; after which he shall fix the time, and the District Meeting shall fix the place. In the absence of the District Superintendent, the District Meeting shall elect from among its ministerial members, by ballot, without debate, a Chairman *pro tem*.

5. The examination of ministerial character shall be the business of the first day of the District Meeting, and shall be confined to the ministerial members alone.

6. The lay members of the District Meeting shall meet separately sometime during the session, and elect by ballot, without debate, lay representatives to the Annual Conference, in the proportion of one for each minister in full connexion within the bounds of the District. Laymen, to be eligible, must be at least twenty-five years of age, and must have been members of the Church in good standing for the five consecutive years next preceding the election.

4. *Quarterly Meetings.*

1. There shall be a Quarterly Official Meeting on each circuit, mission, or station, consisting of the

ministers and probationers for the ministry, the local preachers, the exhorters, the circuit stewards, the leaders of classes, the superintendents of Sabbath schools (being members of the Church), one representative from each Board of Trustees (he being a member of the Church); and also of additional representatives who may have been appointed by the societies of the circuit. The apportionment scale and mode of election shall be arranged by the Fourth Quarterly Official Meeting of the year; but such additional representatives shall not exceed the number of the stewards on the circuit.

2. The Superintendent of the Circuit shall be the Chairman of the Quarterly Official Meeting, except when the Superintendent of the District shall be present, in which case the latter may preside.

3. The Quarterly Official Meeting shall hear complaints, and receive and try appeals; recommend candidates for the ministry; manage and control circuit finances; and discharge such other duties as the General Conference may from time to time determine.

4. The Quarterly Official Meeting, at the fourth regular meeting of the year, shall elect by ballot, without debate, the lay delegates to attend the ensuing Annual District Meeting, in the proportion of one delegate for each minister or probationer in the active work on the circuit.

NOTE.—Regulations concerning the Licensing of Local Preachers and Exhorters are referred to the first General Conference.

BASIS OF UNION.

III. CHURCH PROPERTY.

1. Upon the ratification of the Union, such legislation shall be obtained from Legislatures having competent jurisdiction, as shall vest in the United Church all property now held by, or in trust for, the respective Churches entering into the Union.

2. As it is probable that in some instances church and parsonage property now in use will not be required, after the Union, for church or circuit purposes, it is recommended that a committee, consisting of the District Superintendent, two ministers, and two laymen, be appointed at the District Meeting on each District where any such property may be situated, who shall act conjointly with the trustees on each circuit in determining what property shall be retained for use, and what shall be sold.

3. In all cases where such church or parsonage property may be so sold, the proceeds arising from the sale may be applied—

(a) To the payment of any debts or claims upon or in respect of such property.

(b) To the payment of any debts upon the property retained for use by the congregation formerly using the property so sold, or in building a new church or parsonage where necessary for the united congregation.

(c) The balance, if any, to be applied, with the consent of the trustees, to the use of the Church and Par-

sonage Aid Fund of the United Church, in the Annual Conference in which such property is situated.

NOTE.—The regulations contained in Clause 3 and its subsections, in so far as they apply to property held by the Bible Christian Church, shall be subject to the regulations adopted in regard to Church funds respecting the debt of the Missionary Fund of said Church.

IV. CHURCH FUNDS.

1. *The Superannuation Fund.*

1. There shall be in the United Church a Superannuated Ministers' Fund for the Western Conferences and a Supernumerary Ministers' Fund for the three Conferences in the Maritime Provinces, which funds, for the present, shall be under the management of separate Boards, as has been the practice in the Methodist Church of Canada. As no change is deemed necessary in regard to the Supernumerary Fund of the Eastern Conferences, the recommendations which follow, save the final one, are to be understood as referring solely to the Superannuation Fund of the Western Conferences.

2. The Methodist Church of Canada having an invested capital for the three Western Conferences of over \$91,000, it is agreed that the other Churches uniting shall supply such an amount of capital to said Superannuation Fund as shall place their ministers on an equality with the ministers of the said three Western Conferences.

3. No change shall be made in regard to the claims of any minister holding a permanent superannuated relation at the present time (*i.e.*, 1882) ; and they shall receive on the basis of their present claims as far as the annual income will allow.

4. Income arising from annual collections and subscriptions in all congregations of the United Church, annual subscriptions by ministers of the same, and any amount appropriated from time to time out of the funds of the Missionary Society, shall be used in meeting payments to all claimants on the fund, without distinction.

5. Income arising from the invested capital now held by the Methodist Church of Canada for this fund, and the amount annually received from the profits of the Toronto Book Room (until such time as the Publishing Interests of the other uniting Churches shall be amalgamated, and their assets equalized with those of said Book Room), shall be used exclusively for the benefit of the claimants on the Superannuation Fund now connected with the Methodist Church of Canada, and the claims of ministers now in the active work of that Church who may become superannuated after the Union.

6. The rule adopted above, in Clause 5, shall apply, in the case of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches, in regard to any Book Room or other assets available for their respective Superannuation Funds, until the amalgamation referred to in said clause is accomplished.

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7. So soon as the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, or Bible Christian Churches shall furnish an amount of capital equal, in proportion, to that now held by the Methodist Church of Canada, the superannuated ministers of such uniting Churches, and those who may become superannuates after Union, shall have a claim on the proceeds of the whole invested capital in common with those who are now ministers of the Methodist Church of Canada.

8. If the income of any year shall not be sufficient to meet the claims in full, then all claimants shall share in the deficiency in proportion to the amount of their claim.

9. If any one of the three uniting Churches aforesaid shall fail to provide its full proportion of invested capital, ministers of these Churches who are now, or may hereafter become superannuates shall draw in proportion to the amount of capital actually provided.

10. In case of failure by any of the Churches above mentioned to provide invested capital, it shall be competent for any minister of such Churches to provide his individual share of such capital, and thereafter to draw from the proceeds of the investments in the same manner as superannuates of the present Methodist Church of Canada. This latter provision shall apply to any minister now on the superannuated lists of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, or Bible Christian Churches.

11. The principles embodied in the foregoing regulations shall be applied in adjusting the relations to the

Supernumerary Ministers' Fund of the three Eastern Conferences, of any ministers of the Bible Christian Church who may be included by the Union in any of the said Conferences.

NOTE.—A committee has been appointed, with power to employ an actuary, if necessary, to make a careful estimate of the value of existing investments belonging to the Superannuation Funds and report at the first General Conference.

2. The Missionary Fund.

1. On the consummation of the Union there shall be one Missionary Fund for the whole Church.

2. The Missionary Society of the Methodist Church of Canada having no debt, and the income and expenditure being equal, no recommendation is necessary.

3. The Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church has a debt of \$10,000, incurred in the purchase of property and the erection of churches in Manitoba, the property being held by the society as security for the debt. This debt is to be liquidated out of the assets of the society before the consummation of the Union.

4. The Missionary Society of the Bible Christian Church has a debt of \$21,080, less about \$3,000 on which annuities are paid at 6 per cent. per annum, which annuities will probably cease in a few years. As this debt was incurred in the purchase and erection of mission churches and parsonages, it is considered a legitimate claim against such property. It is, therefore, agreed that the next Annual Conference of the

Bible Christian Church shall make arrangements to distribute the missionary debt among the several properties to erect or purchase which said debt has been incurred. And in case any property belonging to the Bible Christian Church be sold, the proceeds, after paying other debts of the trust, shall be applied to the reduction of the said missionary debt.

5. The above-mentioned debts being provided for as aforesaid, the Churches included in the Union are to unite on equal terms.

3. The Contingent Fund.

As the invested capital of the Contingent Fund of the Methodist Church of Canada belongs to the three Western Conferences of that Church, it is agreed that it be left to the said Conferences to propose a plan for dealing with said investments, and report the same to the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada at the special session to be held before the Union is consummated. As the other Conferences and Churches have no such invested capital, all further action on the subject is referred to the first General Conference of the United Church.

4. The Children's Fund.

As there are no investments in connection with this fund in any of the uniting Churches, it is agreed that the whole question be relegated to the first General Conference of the United Church to determine on what basis, if any, a Children's Fund shall be maintained.

BASIS OF UNION.

V. BOOK AND PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

1. The Halifax Book Room and weekly paper shall be continued as at present, on account of their geographical position.

2. The Toronto Book Room, with its various publications, will also be maintained; and no serious difficulty is apprehended in the way of consolidating the other publishing interests in the West at an early date after the Union is effected.

3. As the assets of the Book and Publishing House of the Methodist Church of Canada, for the three Western Conferences, are larger in proportion to the number of ministers in those Conferences than the similar assets of any of the other contracting parties, it is agreed that each minister of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches, entering into the Union, shall pay into the general Publishing Fund such a sum as will make his interest equal to the *per capita* interests of the ministers of the three Western Conferences aforesaid.

4. In equalizing the *per capita* interest as above, payments may be made in cash, or by notes payable in one or two years from the date of Union; such notes to bear interest at six per cent. per annum.

VI. EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

1. The Methodist Church of Canada and the Methodist Episcopal Church have a number of educational institutions in successful operation. The Primitive

Methodist and Bible Christian Churches have no such institutions in this country.

2. The educational institutions in the Maritime Conferences present no difficulty in the way of Union, and no change is recommended in their present relations.

3. In regard to the Western Conferences, it is believed that those institutions which possess University powers can be consolidated, to the honor of their graduates and the advantage of their educational work.

4. It is recommended that the United Churches adhere to the traditional policy of Methodism in regard to education, believing that the best interests of the Church and of education imperatively demand that our Colleges and Universities should be under the fostering care of the Church.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. *Composition of the First General Conference.*

The General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, having authorized the calling of a Special Session in 1883 to give effect to the Union, provided a satisfactory basis is secured, it is recommended:

1. That in case the Basis of Union is approved by the requisite majorities in the Quarterly Meetings and Annual Conferences of the Churches proposing to unite, it shall be competent for the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodist, and Bible Christian Churches, to elect delegates to the first General Conference of the United Church, in the pro-

portion of one out of ten ministers in full connexion, with an equal number of laymen, elected in Annual Conference or District Meeting, as the case may be; and these, together with the delegates composing the present General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, meeting in joint session after the latter body shall have closed the special session above alluded to, shall compose the first General Conference of the said United Church, with power to perform such acts as may be necessary to the final ratification of the Union, and all other acts which come within the province of a General Conference.

2. The Annual Conferences and District Meetings of the Methodist Church of Canada shall have authority to fill vacancies that may have occurred in their delegations, either lay or clerical, by the usual mode of election.

2. Expenses of General Conference.

If the Basis of Union be approved, it is recommended that the various Annual Conferences make provision for taking up a collection in every congregation for the expenses of the first General Conference.

3. Transfer of Ministers.

The Joint Committee recommend to the first General Conference the matter of making provision for the transfer of ministers from one Conference to another, so as to give all reasonable facilities for meeting the wants of the work.

4. *Time of First General Conference.*

In the event of the Basis of Union being approved, it is recommended that the first General Conference of the United Church be held in the Methodist Episcopal Tabernacle, in the City of Belleville, on the first Wednesday in September, 1883, commencing at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

5. *Name.*

The adoption of a name for the United Church is referred to the first General Conference; but the Committee recommend that it be called "The Methodist Church."

SCHEDULE B.

THE MODEL DEED.

(Referred to in Section 5 of the Act.)

1. Upon trust to build a church and other buildings.	1. Upon trust that they, the said trustees and their successors, or the trustee or trustees for the time being, acting in the trusts herein, shall and do, with and out of the moneys now or which may hereafter be possessed by them or him for that purpose, and as soon as conveniently may be, erect and build upon the land held in trust, or some part thereof, and from time to time and at all times hereafter, whenever it shall be necessary for the due accomplishment of the trusts or any of them, repair, alter, enlarge and rebuild a church or place of religious worship, and a dwelling house or dwelling houses, vestry room or vestry rooms, school room or school rooms and other offices, conveniences and appurtenances, or with or without any of them respec-
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tively, as the trustees for the time being shall, from time to time, deem necessary or expedient.

2. To permit buildings to be used as a church by the Methodist Church.

2. And upon further trust, from time to time and at all times after the erection thereof, to permit and suffer the said church or place of religious worship, with the appurtenances, to be used, occupied and enjoyed as and for a place of religious worship by a congregation of the Methodist Church, and for public and other meetings and services of a religious or spiritual character, held according to the rules, discipline and general usages of the said church, and do and shall, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, permit and suffer such person or persons as are hereinafter mentioned or designated, and such person or persons only, to preach and expound God's Holy Word, and to perform the usual acts of religious worship therein and burial service in the burying ground thereto belonging; that is to say, such person and persons as shall be, from time to time, approved and for that purpose duly appointed thereto in accordance with the rules and discipline of the said Methodist Church, and no other person or persons whomsoever.

3. To permit dwelling house on said premises to be used by the minister in charge.

3. And upon further trusts, from time to time and at all times hereafter, to permit and suffer such minister or ministers of the aforesaid Methodist Church to reside in, use, occupy and enjoy, free from the payment of any rent for the same, the dwelling house or dwelling houses, with the appurtenances (if any there be) erected thereon for that purpose, during such time and times as the said minister or ministers shall and may be duly authorized so to do, by his or their being appointed in accordance with the rules and discipline of the said Methodist Church to the circuit or station in which the same may be situated, without the let, suit, hindrance, or denial of the said trustees, or of any person or persons on their or any of their behalf; and it is hereby declared that the times and manner of the various services and ordinances of religious worship to be observed and per-

formed in the said place of religious worship, shall be regulated according to the rules and discipline and general usage of the Methodist Church, and that the officiating minister for the time being, whether appointed by the said conference, or permitted or appointed by the said superintendent minister for the time being, or otherwise permitted or appointed, as in these presents is mentioned, shall have the direction and conducting of the same worship, in conformity, nevertheless, to the said rules and discipline and general usage of the said Methodist Church: Provided always, that no person or persons whomsoever shall at any time hereafter be permitted to preach or expound God's Holy Word, or to perform any of the usual acts of religious worship, upon the said parcel or tract of land and hereditaments, or in the said church or place of religious worship and premises, or any of them, or any part or parts thereof, or in or upon the appurtenances thereto belonging, or any of them, or any part or parts thereof, who shall maintain, promulgate or teach any doctrine or practice contrary to what is contained in certain notes on the New Testament, commonly reputed to be the notes of John Wesley, and in the first four volumes of sermons commonly reputed to be written and published by him.

4. To permit Sunday schools to be carried on in said church. 4. And upon further trust, in case a school room or school rooms shall be erected or provided upon the said parcel or tract of land, or any part thereof, as aforesaid, or if there shall be no separate school room or school rooms, and it shall, by the said trustees, or the major part thereof, be thought necessary or expedient to hold and teach a Sunday school in any proper part of the said church or place of religious worship, then to permit and suffer a Sunday school to be held, conducted and carried on from time to time in said school room or school rooms, or if it shall be thought necessary or expedient, as aforesaid, in the said church, or place of religious worship, as aforesaid, but if in the said church or place of religious worship, then only at such hours and times as shall not interfere with the public worship of Almighty God therein, and in all cases, whether in said church or place of religious worship or not, under such

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government, orders and regulations as the General Conference of the said Methodist Church have directed or appointed, or shall hereafter, from time to time, direct or appoint, and also subject always to the proviso hereinbefore contained respecting doctrines.

5. To take down and remove buildings and to rebuild. 5. Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the said trustees, or the major part of them, when and so often as they shall deem the same necessary or expedient, to take down and remove the said church, vestry room or vestry rooms, school room or school rooms, dwelling house or dwelling houses, offices, conveniences, or appurtenances to the said church or place of religious worship, or premises belonging or appertaining, or all or any of them, or any part or parts thereof, respectively, for the purpose of rebuilding the said church or place of religious worship, or for the purpose of rebuilding any other vestry room or vestry rooms, school room or school rooms, dwelling house or dwelling houses, offices, or conveniences, or appurtenances, or enlarging or altering the same respectively, or all or any of them, so as to render the premises better adapted to and for the due accomplishment of the trusts, intents and purposes of these presents.

6. To mortgage. 6. It is hereby declared that from time to time and at all times hereafter it shall and may be lawful to and for the said trustees, or the major part of them, to mortgage, and for that purpose to appoint, convey and assure, in fee or for any term or terms of years, the said parcel or tract of land, church or place of religious worship, hereditaments and premises, or any part or parts thereof respectively, to any person or persons whomsoever for securing such sum or sums of money as may be requisite or necessary in or for the due execution and accomplishment of the trusts and purposes of these presents or any of them, according to the true intent and meaning thereof; but it is hereby declared that it shall not be incumbent upon any mortgagee or mortgagees, or upon any intended mortgagee or mortgagees of the said trust premises or any part or parts thereof, to inquire

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into the necessity, expediency or propriety of any mortgage or mortgages which shall be made or proposed to be made under or by virtue of these presents, nor shall anything in these presents contained, or which may be contained, in any such mortgage or mortgages, extend or be construed to extend (unless where the contrary shall, with the full knowledge and consent of the said trustees, or the major part of them, be therein actually expressed), to hinder, prevent or make unlawful the taking down, removing, enlarging or altering the said buildings and premises or any of them respectively, as in these presents before mentioned and provided for in that behalf, nor in any manner to hinder, prevent or interfere with the due execution of the trusts or purposes of these presents or any of them, so long as such mortgagee or mortgagees, his, her, or their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns shall not be in the actual possession, as such mortgagee or mortgagees, of the hereditaments comprised or to be comprised in such mortgage or mortgages, anything in these presents contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

7. To let pews and sittings and dwelling houses and to sell graves and tombs. 7. And upon further trust, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, to let the pews and seats in the said church or place of religious worship at a reasonable rent or reasonable rents (reserving as many free seats where and as may be thought necessary or expedient), and if there shall be any such dwelling house or dwelling houses, school room or school rooms, or other building or buildings, or any of them, erected and built as aforesaid, then to let the same or any of them (other than such as shall or may have been erected and built for or appropriated to the use and occupancy of the minister or ministers duly appointed to the circuit or station in which the same shall be situated), at a reasonable rent or reasonable rents, and also, if there shall be a cemetery or burial ground, to let vaults or tombs at a reasonable rent or reasonable rents, or to sell graves and tombs at a reasonable price or reasonable prices, and to collect, get in and receive the rents, profits and income to arise in any manner from the said premises (excepting moneys which shall, from time to

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time, arise from collections or subscriptions duly made therein according to the rules and discipline and general usage of the said Methodist Church, for other purposes than the immediate purpose of the said trust estate) as, and when, the same shall, from time to time, become due and payable, but not (excepting as to moneys from time to time received from graves and tombs) by way of anticipation, further than for the quarter or half-year or year, as may be thought most expedient: Provided always, that when and so often as such dwelling house or dwelling houses as may have been erected for the express use of the minister or ministers of the circuit or station shall not be required for the use of such minister or ministers, it shall and may be lawful for the said trustees, by and with the advice and consent of the superintendent minister of the circuit or station, to let the same and appropriate the rent derived therefrom towards paying and satisfying the board and lodging of such minister or ministers, or towards paying the rent for a more suitable and convenient residence or residences for such minister or ministers.

8. Trustees to hold moneys arising therefrom upon trust, to pay taxes, insurance, and for repairs, also interest and expenses incurred in the execution of the trusts hereof.

8. And it is hereby declared that the said trustees and trustee for the time being shall stand and be possessed of the money arising from the said rents, profits and income (except as aforesaid), upon trust, thereout to pay, in the first place, such duties, taxes, rates and other out-goings (if any) as, from time to time, shall be lawfully payable in respect of the said premises or any part or parts thereof, and also the costs, charges and expenses of insuring and keeping insured the said trust premises against loss or damages by fire, in such sum or sums as the said trustees or the major part of them shall, from time to time, think proper or expedient, and in repairing and keeping the said trust premises in good repair and condition; and likewise the interest of all principal moneys borrowed and then due and owing on security of the said trust premises or of any part or parts thereof, by virtue of the trusts hereof, and then to retain to and reimburse themselves respectively all costs, charges and

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expenses lawfully incurred and paid by them in or about the due execution of the trusts hereof or any of them, and in the next place thereout to pay and discharge the necessary costs, charges and expenses, from time to time incurred in cleansing, warming, lighting, and attending to the said church or place of religious worship and premises, and generally to liquidate any debts, costs, charges and incumbrances and expenses at any time lawfully incurred under or occasioned by the due execution of the trusts hereof or any of them, and not included in any of the provisions aforesaid.

9. To apply surplus towards payment of ministers in charge, assisting funds of other churches, building new church, or subscribing to charities.

9. And upon further trust, from time to time, to pay and apply any surplus money remaining after the due payment of all such lawful debts, costs, charges, incumbrances and expenses as aforesaid (but according and in conformity to the rules and discipline of the said Methodist Church), for or towards the support of the minister or ministers, for the time being, respectively appointed by the said

Conference or otherwise as aforesaid, either on the circuit on which the said chapel or place of religious worship shall, for the time being, be situated, or on that and some other circuit or circuits, or in some other circuit or circuits only, or for or towards the purpose of assisting or increasing the funds of any other church or place of religious worship, or churches or places of religious worship, appropriated to the use of the said Methodist Church, or in building any new church or place of religious worship, or churches or places of religious worship, for the use of the said Methodist Church, and which shall be settled upon trusts, ends, intents and purposes similar thereto; or in subscribing or giving to any of the general funds, objects or charities of the said Methodist Church; or for or towards all or any of the purposes, objects, funds or charities hereinbefore mentioned, in such manner as the said trustees, or the major part of them, shall, from time to time, think necessary or expedient; and it is hereby declared that it shall be lawful for the said trustees, or the major part of them (although there shall not then be any such

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surplus money as aforesaid), from time to time, to subscribe or give such sum or sums of money as they shall think necessary or expedient, and which may be conveniently spared from the funds of the said church or place of religious worship, for or towards all or any of the purposes, objects, funds or charities aforesaid.

10. To appoint
and remove
stewards and
treasurers.

10. And it is hereby declared that it shall be lawful for the said trustees, or the major part of them, at any meeting to be convened and held, as hereinafter mentioned, from time to time and at all times hereafter at their discretion, to appoint any person or persons, of decent and sober conduct and good reputation, to be a steward or stewards of the said church or place of religious worship, and at their will and pleasure to remove and dismiss such steward or stewards, or any of them; and the duty of the steward or stewards of the said church or place of religious worship shall be to see and attend to the orderly conducting of the secular business and affairs of the said church or place of religious worship, under the direction and superintendence of the said trustees, or the major part of them; and also in like manner to appoint any proper person or persons to be a treasurer or treasurers of the funds of the said church or place of religious worship and premises, and at their will and pleasure to remove and dismiss such treasurer or treasurers, or any of them.

11. To keep
books of account
and submit the
same for audit.

11. And it is hereby declared that the said trustees shall themselves, or by their steward or stewards, treasurer or treasurers, keep a book or books of account in which, from time to time, shall be plainly, legibly and regularly extended an account of every receipt and disbursement by them, him or any of them received or made, and also of all debts and credits due to and owing from or in respect of the said trust premises or any part or parts thereof, and also of all other documents, articles, matters and things necessary for the due and full explanation and understanding of the same book or books of account, and shall also in like manner keep a book or books of minutes in which, from time

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to time, shall be plainly, legibly and regularly entered minutes of all trustee meetings from time to time held under or by virtue of these presents and of the resolutions passed, and of all proceedings, acts and business had, taken and done thereat, and also of all documents, matters and things necessary for the due and full explanation and understanding of the same minutes, and all other things done in and about the execution of the trusts hereof; and shall and will from time to time, and at all seasonable times hereafter, upon the request of the superintendent minister, for the time being, of the circuit in which the said church or place of religious worship shall, for the time being, be situated, produce and show forth to him and to every person whom he shall desire to see the same, all and every such book or books of accounts and minutes, documents, articles, matters and things, and permit and suffer copies or abstracts of or extracts from them or any of them to be made and taken by the said superintendent minister or any person or persons whom he shall, from time to time, desire to make and take the same; and the said book and books of accounts and minutes, and all documents, articles, matters and things relating in any wise to the said trust premises, shall at least once in the year, and oftener, if the said superintendent shall at any time desire and shall give notice thereof in manner hereinafter mentioned, be regularly, upon a day to be appointed by the said superintendent for the time being, or with his concurrence, examined and audited by the superintendent and the circuit steward or circuit stewards, if more than one, for the time being, of the circuit in which the said church or place of religious worship shall, for the time being, be situate, at a meeting convened for that purpose; and of every such meeting fourteen days' notice in writing, specifying the time, place and purpose of such meeting, shall and may be given under the direction of the said superintendent for the time being, by any one or more of them the said trustee or trustees for the time being, to each and every the other and others of them, the said trustees or trustee, circuit stewards or circuit steward, for the time being, and either personally served upon him and them respectively,

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or let for or sent by the post to him and them at his and their most usual place and places of abode or business; and in order to facilitate the auditing of the said accounts, minutes, documents, articles, matters and things, it shall be lawful for the said superintendent, circuit steward, and circuit stewards for the time being as aforesaid, or either or any of them, to appoint in writing a deputy or deputies to act therein for them and him respectively, as aforesaid, and for that purpose any one or more of them may be the deputy or deputies of the other or others of them, the said superintendent, circuit steward and circuit stewards; and it is hereby declared that the signatures of all of them the said auditors, deputies and deputy, or of the aggregate majority of them, written in the said book and books of accounts and minutes, respectively, shall be sufficient evidence that all the matters and things relating to the said trust premises, which were up to that time included in the said books, accounts, minutes and documents, matters and things, were duly examined, audited and approved of, unless and except so far as the contrary shall be therein, by them or by the aggregate majority of them, in writing expressed.

12. And it is hereby declared that seven days' notice of a special meeting and convenient notice of other meetings of trustees shall be given.

12. And it is hereby declared that every meeting for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of making any alteration of or any addition to or mortgage or sale of the said church or place of religious worship and premises, or any part or parts thereof, or for contracting any debt upon, for or on account thereof (other than for the ordinary current expenses thereof), or for letting

any such house or houses, school room or school rooms, as aforesaid, or for fixing the rents or prices, or making or altering rules to ascertain the rents or prices of such graves, tombs, pews and seats as aforesaid, or for appropriating the funds or any part of the funds of the said church or place of religious worship (otherwise than for the due payment of the ordinary current expenses thereof), or for bringing or defending any action or actions, suit or suits,

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respecting the said trust estates and premises or any parts thereof, or any matter relating thereto, or for any one or more of the above purposes, shall be and shall be deemed and taken to be a special meeting; and of every such meeting seven days' notice in writing, specifying the time, place and purpose or purposes of such meeting, and signed by at least either two of the said trustees or by the superintendent minister for the time being, shall be given to the other and others of them and him the said trustees and superintendent minister (unless where he is himself the person giving such notice), and either personally served upon him and them, or left for, or sent by the post to him and them respectively, at his and their most usual place or places of abode or business; and for the purpose of transacting their ordinary business relating to the said church or place of religious worship and premises, or for any other purpose relating to these presents or trusts thereof (except where seven days' notice is expressed or required as hereinbefore mentioned), a meeting of the said trustees may be held with the said superintendent for the time being, as aforesaid, so soon as the same can be conveniently convened by notice in writing, specifying the time and place of such meeting, given and signed by at least either two of the said trustees, or by the said superintendent for the time being, and either personally served upon or left for, or sent by the post as aforesaid, to the other and others of them respectively at his and their most usual place or places of abode or business: Provided always, and it is hereby declared, that no meeting held under or by virtue of these presents shall be invalid, or the resolutions thereof void or impeached, by reason that any such notice or notices, as aforesaid, may not or shall not have reached any said trustee or trustees who, at the time of any such meeting, happens to be out of the Province in which the lands and premises held in trust are situated, or who or whose place or places of abode or business shall not be known to, and cannot reasonably be found or discovered by, the person or persons who is or are respectively, as aforesaid, authorized to give any such notice or notices as aforesaid.

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13. That a majority of the trustees shall rule, and that in case of a tie, the chairman shall give a casting vote.

13. And it is hereby declared that at any meeting held under or by virtue of the trusts hereof, or any of them, the votes of the persons present and entitled to vote, or the votes of a majority of them, shall decide any question or matter proposed at such meeting and respecting which such votes shall be given; and in case the votes shall be equally divided, then the chairman of such meeting shall give the casting vote. And it is hereby declared, that whenever it shall be thought necessary or expedient to do anything in and by these presents directed, authorized or made lawful to be done, the necessity or expediency of doing the same shall, in like manner, be decided by the persons present and entitled to vote upon the question to be determined, or by the majority of them, and if there shall be an even division, then by such casting vote as aforesaid; and all acts and deeds done and executed in pursuance of any such decision as aforesaid, at any such meeting as aforesaid, shall be good, valid and binding on all persons entitled to vote at the meeting, who may be absent, or being present, may be in the minority, and on all other persons claiming under or in pursuance of these presents; but no person (unless where the contrary is hereinbefore expressly mentioned) shall be allowed to vote in more than one capacity at the same time or on the same question, although holding more than one office at the same time in the said church, or in the same meeting.

14. That the rules, discipline, doctrines and usages of the Church shall be in force subject to the proviso respecting doctrines herein contained.

14. And it is hereby declared that the "rules and discipline and general usage" of the said Methodist Church in these presents mentioned or referred to, are the rules and discipline of the said Church, as printed and published by authority of the said Conference, in a book entitled "Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Church," and the general usage and practice of the societies belonging to said Church, and such rules and regulations as may, from time to time, be made or adopted by the said General Conference, and printed and published in their journals, in accordance

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with the provisions contained in said book of discipline, but subject at all times to the proviso respecting doctrines in these presents contained.

15. That the superintendent minister or his deputy shall be chairman of meetings of trustees, but in case of absence, trustees may appoint chairman.

15. Provided always, and it is hereby declared, that excepting where the contrary is in these presents expressly declared or provided for, the superintendent minister, for the time being, of the circuit or station in which the said church or place of religious worship shall, for the time being, be situated, or his deputy thereunto from time to time by him nominated and appointed in writing, under

his hand, shall be the chairman of, and shall preside at, and shall have a casting vote as such superintendent minister, for and in all meetings held under or by virtue of these presents; but in case the said superintendent minister for the time being, or his deputy to be so appointed as aforesaid, shall, at any time, neglect to attend at any such meeting as aforesaid, or if the superintendent minister, or his deputy appointed as aforesaid, shall attend but shall refuse to act as such, the chairman, at any such meeting as aforesaid, or if the said superintendent minister shall not attend at any such meeting, and shall neglect to appoint a deputy as aforesaid, then and in every and any of the said cases, it shall be lawful for the persons for the time being composing such meeting and entitled to vote thereat, or for a majority of them, to elect and choose from among themselves a chairman to preside for the time being at any such meeting as aforesaid; and every meeting so held upon any such neglect or refusal of the said superintendent minister, or his deputy as aforesaid, shall be as valid and effectual as if the said superintendent, or his deputy as aforesaid, had been the chairman thereof and had presided thereat.

16. Proviso for sale of land with consent of Conference.

16. Provided always, and it is hereby declared, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said trustees, or a majority of them, with the consent of the said annual conference (such consent to be testified in writing under the hand of the president or secretary for the time being of

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the said conference), either by joining in the deed of conveyance for the purpose of expressing such consent or by separate document, at any time or times hereafter, absolutely to sell and dispose of the said parcel or tract of land, church or place of religious worship, hereditaments and premises, or of such part or parts of the same, respecting which such consent in writing as aforesaid shall be given, either by public sale or private contract, and together or in parcels and either at one and the same time or at different times and prices, for the best price or prices, in money, that can be reasonably obtained for the same, and well and effectually to convey and assure the hereditaments and premises so sold to the purchaser or purchasers thereof, his, her or their heirs and assigns, or as he, she or they shall direct or appoint; and the hereditaments and premises so sold and conveyed and assured as aforesaid shall thenceforth be held and enjoyed by the purchaser or purchasers thereof, his, her and their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, freed and absolutely discharged from these presents, and from the trusts hereby declared and every of them; and the said trustees or trustee for the time being shall apply the money which shall arise from every such sale as aforesaid, so far as the same will extend, to the discharge of all the incumbrances, liabilities and responsibilities, whether personal or otherwise, lawfully contracted or occasioned by virtue of these presents, or in the due execution of the trusts hereof, or of any of them, and subject thereto, and to the payment of any debts upon any other church property on the said circuit, or for building new churches, or for the purpose of procuring a larger and more conveniently or eligibly situated parcel or tract of land and church or place of religious worship and parsonage premises, in the place and stead of the said parcel or tract of land and church or place of religious worship or parsonage and hereditaments and premises so sold or disposed of; and the balance, if any, to be applied to the use of the church and parsonage aid fund of the said Methodist Church and the said annual conference, [or to such other purposes as the said annual conference may from time to time determine under the rules and regulations of the General Conference:] Provided, however, that

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If any such church or property so sold belonged to the Bible Christian Church prior to the union of the said Church with the other Methodist Churches, the surplus, after payment of debts, shall be applied to the reduction of the missionary debts, as provided in the Basis of Union. 2 Geo. V., ch. 116, sec. 4.

17. Provided always, that if at any time hereafter the income arising from the said parcel or tract of land, church or place of religious worship, hereditaments and premises, shall be inadequate to meet and discharge the interest of all moneys borrowed and then due and owing upon or on account of the said trust premises, and the various current expenses attending the due execution of the trusts hereof, and if the said trustees, for the time being, of these presents, shall desire to retire and be discharged from the burden and execution of the said trusts, and if no such persons as are hereinafter mentioned or described can be found to take upon themselves the burden and execution of the said trusts, with the responsibility and liability to be thereby incurred, then in that case it shall be lawful for the said trustees, for the time being, as aforesaid, or the major part of them, of their own proper authority, and without any such consent by the said annual conference as aforesaid, to sell and dispose of the said parcel or tract of land, church or place of religious worship, hereditaments and premises, or any part or parts of the same, respectively, either by public sale or private contract, and either together or in parcels, and either at one and the same time or at different times, for the best price or prices in money that can be reasonably obtained for the same; and well and effectually to convey and assure the hereditaments and premises so sold, with the appurtenances, to the purchaser or purchasers thereof, his, her or their heirs and assigns, or as he, she or they shall direct or appoint; and the hereditaments and premises so sold and conveyed and assured, as last aforesaid, shall thenceforth be held and enjoyed by the purchaser and purchasers thereof, his, her and their heirs, executors, administrators

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and assigns, freed and absolutely discharged from these presents and the trusts hereby declared, and every of them; and all the moneys arising from every such last-mentioned sale shall be applied, disposed of and appropriated, as far as the same money will extend, to the purposes and in the manner hereinbefore directed in respect to any sale made in pursuance or in consequence of such consent of or by the said annual conference, as aforesaid; but it is hereby declared that no sale shall be made by virtue of this present power or authority, unless the said trustees for the time being as aforesaid, or a majority of them, shall give notice in writing to the said annual conference, or to the president for the time being of the said annual conference, on or before the first day of the then next annual meeting of the said annual conference, of their intention to make such sale, and the reasons for the same, nor unless the said annual conference shall, for the space of six calendar months next after the said first day of their said annual meeting, refuse or neglect either to give, grant or provide the said trustees or trustee for the time being with such pecuniary or other aid, assistance and relief as shall enable them and him to bear and continue the burden of the execution of the trusts of these presents, or (as the case may be) to find and provide other trustees who will take upon themselves the burden of the execution of the said trusts.

18. And it is hereby declared that, except in case of mortgage or sale, the receipt of a majority of the trustees or of trustee, steward or treasurer duly authorized, shall be sufficient.

18. And it is hereby declared that the receipt and receipts of a majority of the said trustees for the time being shall, in all cases of payment made to them, or any of them as such trustees or trustee as aforesaid, be a full discharge to the person or persons entitled to such receipt or receipts, his, her and their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, for all mortgage moneys, purchase moneys, or other moneys therein, respectively, expressed and acknowledged to have been received by any such trustees or trustee, as aforesaid; and in all cases, except for money paid and received in respect of any mort-

gage or sale of the said hereditaments and premises, or any part or parts thereof, as aforesaid, the receipt and receipts of any one or more of the said trustees for the time being, or any one or more of the stewards or treasurers for the time being, by the said trustees for the time being, or the major part of them, duly authorized to sign and give receipts, shall be a full discharge to the person and persons entitled to such receipt or receipts, his, her and their heirs, executors and administrators, for all moneys (except as aforesaid) therein respectively expressed and acknowledged to have been received by any such trustee, steward or treasurer, as aforesaid.

19. That purchaser or mortgagee shall not be bound to inquire as to the necessity of sale or mortgage.

19. And it is hereby declared that it shall not be incumbent upon any mortgagee or mortgagees, purchaser or purchasers of the said parcel or tract of land, church or place of religious worship, hereditaments and premises, or of any part or parts thereof, respectively, to inquire into the necessity, expediency

or propriety of any mortgage, sale or disposition of the said parcel or tract of land, church or place of religious worship, hereditaments and premises, or of any part or parts thereof, made or proposed to be made by the said trustees or trustee for the time being, or the major part of them, as aforesaid, or whether any such notice or notices, as aforesaid, was or were duly given, or was or were valid or sufficient, or whether any steward or stewards, treasurer or treasurers, was or were duly authorized to sign and give receipts as aforesaid; nor shall it be incumbent upon any such mortgagee or mortgagees, purchaser or purchasers, or any of them, or for any other person or persons, his, her or their heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, paying money to such trustees or trustee, or to their steward or stewards, treasurer or treasurers for the time being, as aforesaid, to see to the application, or to be answerable or accountable for the loss, mis-application or non-application of such purchase or other money, or any part thereof, for which a receipt or receipts shall be so respectively given, as aforesaid.

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20. That trustees shall not be accountable for involuntary loss.

20. And it is hereby declared that the said trustees or trustee for the time being shall not, nor shall any of them, their or any of their heirs, executors or administrators, or any of them, be chargeable or accountable for any involuntary loss suffered by him, them or any of them, nor any one or more of them, or any other or others of them, nor for more money than shall come to their respective hands, nor for injury done by others to the said trust premises, or to any part or parts thereof.

21. That number of trustees shall not be less than five nor more than twenty-one, and that vacancies are to be filled and number increased by nomination and appointment.

21. And it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of this indenture and of the parties thereto, that the full number of the trustees of the said trust shall not be less than five (5) nor more than twenty-one (21), and that when and so often as any one or more of the said trustees or of their successors in the said trust shall die, resign office as trustee, by and with the consent of a two-thirds vote of the co-trustees, or withdraw from or cease to be a member or members of the said Methodist Church, according to the rules and discipline of the said church, or shall remove to such distance, [or shall fail to attend the meetings of the trustees for such period not less than one year, nor embracing less than three consecutive meetings,] as shall in the opinion of his co-trustees, expressed by a two-thirds vote of said co-trustees [at a meeting duly called to consider the matter,] render it inexpedient for him to remain in said trust, the place of the trustee or trustees so dying, resigning, withdrawing, ceasing to be a member or members of the said Church, [failing to attend,] or removing as aforesaid, shall thereupon become vacant, subject, however, to the provisos next hereinafter set out; [and thereupon and from time to time, as often as a vacancy or vacancies shall occur, the surviving or remaining trustee or trustees may by a two-thirds vote reduce the number of the trustees by one or more up to the number of such vacancies, provided the number remaining shall be not less than five, but should such resolution not be passed by the said surviving or remaining trustees such

vacancy] shall be filled with a successor or successors, being a member or members of the said church, of the full age of twenty-one years, to be nominated and appointed as follows, that is to say,—to be nominated by the Methodist Church minister having charge, for the time being, of the circuit or station in which the said hereby conveyed premises shall be situate, and thereupon appointed by the surviving or remaining trustee or trustees of the said trust, or a majority of them, if he or they shall think proper to appoint the person or persons so nominated; and in case of an equal division of the votes of the trustees present at any meeting of the trustees held for the purpose of such appointment, the minister so in charge of the said circuit or station shall have a casting vote in such appointment; Provided always, that no such consent as aforesaid shall be given while any vacancies remain unfilled, nor shall the trustees consent to the resignation of more than one trustee by any one vote: Provided also, that notwithstanding the withdrawal by a trustee from his membership in the said church, his powers and liabilities as a trustee shall not cease unless his place in the trust shall be declared vacant by a two-thirds vote of the remaining trustees, which declaration it shall be in their power to make, on their being convinced that he has withdrawn as aforesaid, provided that no prior vacancy remain then unfilled, and provided that not more than one vacancy shall be declared by any one vote; and if at any time it shall be deemed advisable to increase the number of trustees to a number greater than that appointed hereby, not exceeding twenty-one, then the person or persons whom it is desired to appoint as such new trustee or trustees shall be nominated and appointed as is next hereinbefore provided for the filling of vacancies; and if it shall happen at any time that there shall be no surviving or remaining trustee of the said trust, in every such case it shall and may be lawful for the minister aforesaid to nominate, and the quarterly meeting of the circuit or station, if they approve of the person or persons so nominated, to appoint, the requisite number of the trustees of the said trust, by the vote of the majority of the members of the said meeting then present; and in case of an equal division of their votes, the chair-

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man of the said meeting shall have the casting vote in such appointment, and the person or persons so nominated and appointed trustee or trustees in either of the said modes of nomination and appointment shall be the legal successor or successors, co-trustee or co-trustees, of the said above-named trustees, and shall have, in perpetual succession, the same capacities, powers, rights, duties, estates and interests as are given to the above-named trustees in and by these presents, and in and by any Statute or Statutes which may, for the time being, be in force affecting the same. 2 Geo. V., ch. 116, sec. 5.

22. To fix quorum, etc. 22. It is hereby declared that a majority of the said trustees shall form a quorum, [save when the number of trustees exceeds nine, when five shall form a quorum,] all having been duly notified; and when a majority or two-thirds vote may be required for any purpose, it shall be held to mean a majority or two-thirds, as the case may be, of any such meeting. 2 Geo. V., ch. 116, sec. 5.

23. To fix time for placing financial statement before quarterly official meeting. 23. A full and accurate financial statement, duly audited, shall be laid before the first quarterly official meeting after the first day of January in each year.

APPENDIX V.

SUGGESTED PLAN FOR LOCAL UNION CHURCHES IN AFFILIATION WITH EITHER THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, THE METHODIST CHURCH, OR THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF CANADA.

As agreed upon by their respective committees on Local Union Churches meeting in joint session, Jan. 4, 1917, pending the union of the three Churches.

In the judgment of this Committee the principle of union in different localities, until the organic union of the negotiating Churches is consummated, should find expression in the organization of charges under the plan of co-operation jointly adopted by the negotiating Churches rather than by the organization of independent Local Union Churches. Where, however, for any reason it is found impracticable to organize under the plan of co-operation, the following suggestions are made with reference to the organization of Local Union Churches in affiliation with either the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church or the Congregational Union of Canada.

I. By an affiliated charge is meant a local church or churches under the care of one pastor, organized on the Basis of Union as agreed upon by the negotiating de-

nominations and looking to one of these denominations for spiritual guidance and supervision and contributing to the missionary and connexional funds of that denomination.

II. That the ministers of the three negotiating Churches be requested to give immediate notice of any movement towards the formation of a local Union Church in their district to the authorities of their respective denominations so that conference may be held and advice given.

III. Congregations which, after conference with the authorities of their respective Churches, desire to form a united charge in affiliation with one of the negotiating Churches, shall present a petition, signed by communicant members in good standing, to the Church Courts of the district (the Presbytery, District Meeting or Association), which bodies shall, if they approve of the prayer of the petition, appoint representatives to hold a joint meeting in order that said prayer may be considered, and, if the way be clear, carried into effect. Said representatives shall examine the financial circumstances of each charge so organized, and where necessary advise the officials how to maintain the funds of the church and concerning the fulfilment of all their financial obligations, and shall make a report upon these questions to the respective Church Courts above mentioned.

IV. As soon as a roll of membership is formed and an organization effected the united charge shall decide, at a meeting called for the purpose, by a majority vote of the communicants, with which of the negotiating

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Churches it shall be affiliated, and shall take steps to carry into effect such affiliation.

V. Recognizing that such charges will be incorporated in the proposed United Church of Canada when organic union is effected, the *name* of the local charge shall be "The United Church of.....
(name of place) in affiliation with the.....
(the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church or the Congregational Union of Canada)."

VI. The Basis of Union already adopted by the negotiating Churches shall, so far as it is practicable, be the basis on which such charges shall be organized and administered.

(Method of appointment of Local Boards, with duties, will be found in the Basis of Union, Section II. B, on Polity, as printed on page 9 of this pamphlet.)

VII. The *members* of the united charge shall be the members of the negotiating Churches and such others as may afterwards become members.

VIII. The *minister* shall be chosen by the members of the united charge at a meeting called for the purpose and shall be secured from among the ministers in good standing in the three negotiating Churches. All ministers from any of the negotiating Churches, serving such united charges, shall be responsible for their character and ministerial standing to the denomination to which they belong and shall have, while serving such charges, all the usual rights and privileges

of a minister of that denomination. In the discharge of his duties as pastor he shall be under the supervision of the Courts of the Church with which his charge is affiliated.

IX. It is recommended that representatives of united charges be given the privileges of corresponding members in the Courts of the Church with which such charges are affiliated.

X. The denomination with which the united charge is affiliated shall have the *supervision* of such charge.

(a) The united charge shall report annually to the Presbytery, District Meeting or Association of the denomination with which it is affiliated.

(b) The charge should be visited regularly.

(c) It is desirable that representatives should be sent to promote liberality toward missionary and connexional funds.

(d) Contributions for missions and other connexional funds, including the amounts raised by Women's Societies, should, as a rule, be sent to the denomination with which the charge is affiliated.

(e) It is recommended that the returns of the united charges under the care of the negotiating Churches shall be recorded separately in the annual schedules of the denomination with which they are affiliated.

XI. All transactions in regard to *property* previously held in the name of any of the negotiating Churches must be carried through in accordance with the regula-

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tions of the denomination in whose name it has been held.

(Signed by)

A. B. BAIRD,

Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, Chairman.

S. D. CHOWN,

General Superintendent of the Methodist Church of Canada, Chairman.

W. T. GUNN,

Secretary of the Congregational Union of Canada, Secretary.

Addresses of Home Mission Secretaries:

Presbyterian Church—

Rev. J. H. Edmison, B.A., Secretary, Board of Home Mission and Social Service, 434 Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

Methodist Church—

Rev. James Allen, General Secretary of the Home Department, 299 Queen Street W., Toronto.

Congregational Church—

Rev. W. T. Gunn, D.D., Secretary Congregational Missionary Society, 33 Victor Avenue, Toronto.

Appendix. Section II. B on Polity of the Basis of Union for the proposed United Church of Canada:

9. The liberty of the pastoral charge shall be recognized to the fullest extent compatible with:

(a) The oversight of the spiritual interests of the charge by the minister (or ministers) and a body of men specially chosen and set apart or ordained for that work, who shall jointly constitute the session;

(b) The efficient co-operation of the representatives of the various departments of the work of the charge by means of a meeting to be held at least quarterly;

(c) The hearty co-operation of the various pastoral charges in the general work of the Church, and

(d) The exercise by the higher governing bodies or courts of their powers and functions, hereinafter set forth.

10. New pastoral charges or local churches shall be formed with the consent of a Presbytery by persons residing within its bounds, who declare their adherence to the principles of The United Church, and their desire for the formation of such charge or church. Missions may be organized as pastoral charges by Presbytery of its own motion, or on the suggestion of the Missionary Superintendent or the Minister, under such regulations as the General Council may pass.

Before sanctioning the formation of a pastoral charge or local church, the Presbytery shall be required to hear and consider the representations of any pastoral charge that may be affected by the proposed action.

11. (a) The members of the Church entitled to all

church privileges are those who, on a profession of their faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to Him, have been received into full membership. The children of such persons and all baptized children are members of the Church, and it is their duty and privilege, when they reach the age of discretion, to enter into full membership. Admission to full membership, and granting of certificates of removal, shall be by the action of the Session, and by the action of those in full membership where desired by the pastoral charge.

(b) The members of a local church who are entitled to vote at all meetings are persons in full membership, whose names are on the roll of the church. With the consent of these, adherents who contribute regularly to the support of the Church may vote on temporal matters.

12. The members of a local church shall meet annually and more frequently if they deem it advisable.

13. The Session shall have oversight of the spiritual interests of the pastoral charge. The management of its temporal and financial affairs shall be entrusted to a Committee of Stewards. The Official Board, consisting of the Session and Committee of Stewards, with representatives in full church membership, of such other departments of church work as may be agreed upon by the general Council, shall meet quarterly and more frequently if they deem it advisable, for the consideration of matters of joint interest.

14. The members of the Session, other than the Minister, shall be chosen by those in full church membership, and shall hold office under regulations to be passed by the General Council.

PLAN FOR LOCAL UNION CHURCHES.

15. (a) It shall be the duty of the Session to have the oversight of:

(1) The admission of persons into full membership, and the granting of certificates of removal.

(2) The conduct of members, with power to exercise discipline.

(3) The administration of the sacraments.

(4) The religious training of the young, and the organization of meetings for Christian fellowship, instruction and work.

(5) The order of public worship, including the service of praise and the use of the church edifice.

(6) The care of the poor, and the visiting of the sick.

(b) It shall also be its duty:

(7) To receive and judge petitions, etc., from members.

(8) To transmit petitions, appeals, etc., to Presbytery.

(9) To recommend suitable laymen to Presbyteries for license to preach.

(10) To recommend suitable candidates for the ministry.

16. The stewards shall be chosen by the local church, and, wherever practicable, should be persons in full membership.

It shall be the duty of the Committee of Stewards to secure contributions for the purposes of the local church, and to disburse the moneys received for these purposes.

17. It shall be the duty of the Official Board:

PLAN FOR LOCAL UNION CHURCHES.

(1) To secure contributions for missionary and other general objects of the Church.

(2) To select representatives, in full Church membership, of the pastoral charge to the Presbytery.

(3) To submit to the pastoral charge or local church for its consideration reports on life and work, including a full statement of receipts and expenditures, of indebtedness and of estimates for the ensuing year.

(4) To transmit from the pastoral charge, through the Presbytery, to the Settlement Committee, representations concerning the pastoral relation.

(5) To attend to matters affecting the pastoral charge not assigned to any of the other bodies.

18. All lands, premises and property acquired for the use of a local church or a pastoral charge of The United Church shall be held, used and administered under the trusts of the above Model Trust Deed (see "Polity," Par. 6).

APPENDIX VI.

AGREEMENT FOR CO-OPERATION

BETWEEN THE PRESBYTERIAN, METHODIST AND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES IN CANADA, PENDING THEIR ORGANIC UNION,

As revised by the Central Committee on Co-operation, representing the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches on Jan. 3-4, 1917.

In the judgment of this Committee the principle of union in different localities, until the organic union of the negotiating Churches is consummated, should find expression in the organization of charges under this plan of co-operation jointly adopted by the negotiating Churches, rather than by the organization of local union Churches.

ORGANIZATION.

In order to secure the co-operation desired, they recommend:—

1. That Committees on co-operation, empowered to deal with the matters hereafter set forth and designated "Co-operating Committees," be appointed in the

AGREEMENT FOR CO-OPERATION.

various Synods, Annual Conferences, or Associations, wherever this has not already been done. These Co-operating Committees shall meet at least once a year.

II. That these Co-operating Committees define the local districts and appoint or secure the appointment of local Committees in the various districts of the Synod, Conference or Association. Home Mission Superintendents, Chairmen of Districts, Conveners of Presbyteries, and officers of like rank in the Congregational Church to be *ex officio* members of these Local Committees.

III. That the principles of co-operation be applied :

1. In the adjustment of overlapping in existing fields.
2. In the arranging of religious work in absolutely new districts.
3. In the work to be done amongst the foreign nationalities.

OVERLAPPING IN EXISTING FIELDS.

IV. That the Local Committee look carefully into all the circumstances in any locality in which, in their judgment, or as instructed by the Co-operating Committee, or by this Central Committee, or at the request of the Synod, Conference, or Association, co-operation ought to be attempted, with a view of recommending to the Co-operating Committees that the locality in question be left in the care of one of the co-operating Churches; the results of their investigations and deliberations to be reported both to the Co-operating Com-

mittee, and to this Central Committee, on printed form that will be provided for this purpose.

When a field or portion of a province has been assigned to any one of the Co-operating Churches, the other denominations shall not take up new work at any point nearer to any of the appointments of such field or portion of a province than six miles, without the approval of the Local and Co-operating Committees.

By a field is understood the territory under the charge of a missionary or minister. Such fields may include all charges paying not more than \$1,200 per annum for ministerial support.

V. That in recommending to which of the co-operating Churches the task of ministering to any particular field shall be entrusted, Local Committees give due weight to the following considerations: Priority of occupation of the field; the relative number of members and adherents belonging to the different denominations; the relative amounts contributed by the people of the different denominations for the support of the ordinances among themselves; and the readiness of the respective denominations to minister to the field promptly and effectively.

In any case in which a distinct majority of all the people express a preference for the ministrations of a particular Church, that preference shall have special consideration, even though the Church selected should not be the strongest in other respects.

It shall be competent for any congregation of the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches, and for the Quarterly Official Board of the Methodist Church, to

appoint not more than three persons to state their case before a Local Committee, a Co-operating Committee, or this Central Committee. This refers to fields where a change may be contemplated.

When a field has been assigned to any of the denominations, the Co-operating Committee shall make adequate provision for visiting such a field by representatives of the Churches concerned, who shall explain what has been done and urge the people to unite heartily in loyal support of the arrangement made by the Co-operating Committee and in the prosecution of the work of the Kingdom of God in the community.

Should any difficulty affecting the co-operation arise on any such field, then it shall be the duty of the Co-operating Committee to provide for the visiting of the field with a view to bringing about unity and harmony.

VI. When a field has been assigned to any Church by a Co-operating Committee, the roll of membership shall be composed of all the members of the uniting Churches within the territory assigned, and such a united body may organize—

(1) According to the usage of the denomination to which it is assigned, or

(2) In the manner prescribed for the local Church in the "Basis of Union of The United Church of Canada," as found in Section II. B on Polity, but shall have complete connexional relationship with that denomination to which it has been assigned. Such organization shall, in addition to supporting the local Church, also support the connexional funds and interests of the denomination with which it is identified.

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The Local Committee shall consider the assets and liabilities of any congregations which it is proposed to unite under co-operation, and shall give advice as to how the finances of the new field shall be maintained, and the obligations of any congregation which becomes incorporated in the new charge may be met, and shall report their action to the Co-operating Committee.

In the judgment of the Central Committee all Church property on a field assigned to any one of the co-operating Churches should be owned and administered by the Church to which the field has been assigned. This judgment is given on condition that all financial liabilities to the Churches leaving the field shall be discharged.

(NOTE.—All transactions in regard to property previously held in the name of the Church or Churches withdrawing must be carried through in accordance with the regulations of the denomination in whose name it has been held.)

The section of the "Basis of Union," Polity II. B referred to above, is as follows:

9. The liberty of the pastoral charge shall be recognized to the fullest extent compatible with:

(a) The oversight of the spiritual interests of the charge by the minister (or ministers) and a body of men specially chosen and set apart or ordained for that work, who shall jointly constitute the session;

(b) The efficient co-operation of the representatives of the various departments of the work of the charge by means of a meeting to be held at least quarterly;

(c) The hearty co-operation of the various pastoral charges in the general work of the Church, and

(*d*) The exercise by the higher governing bodies or courts of their powers and functions, hereinafter set forth.

10. New pastoral charges or local churches shall be formed with the consent of a Presbytery by persons residing within its bounds, who declare their adherence to the principles of The United Church, and their desire for the formation of such charge or church. Missions may be organized as pastoral charges by Presbytery of its own motion, or on the suggestion of the Missionary Superintendent or the minister, under such regulations as the General Council may pass.

Before sanctioning the formation of a pastoral charge or local church, the Presbytery shall be required to hear and consider the representations of any pastoral charge that may be affected by the proposed action.

11. (*a*) The members of the Church entitled to all church privileges are those who, on a profession of their faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to Him, have been received into full membership. The children of such persons and all baptized children are members of the Church, and it is their duty and privilege, when they reach the age of discretion, to enter into full membership. Admission to full membership, and granting of certificates of removal, shall be by the action of the Session, and by the action of those in full membership where desired by the pastoral charge;

(*b*) The members of a local church who are entitled to vote at all meetings are persons in full membership, whose names are on the roll of the church. With the

AGREEMENT FOR CO-OPERATION.

consent of these, adherents who contribute regularly to the support of the Church may vote on temporal matters.

12. The members of a local church shall meet annually, and more frequently if they deem it advisable.

13. The Session shall have oversight of the spiritual interests of the pastoral charge. The management of its temporal and financial affairs shall be entrusted to a Committee of Stewards. The Official Board, consisting of the Session and Committee of Stewards, with representatives in full church membership, of such other departments of church work as may be agreed upon by the General Council, shall meet quarterly, and more frequently if they deem it advisable, for the consideration of matters of joint interest.

14. The members of the Session, other than the minister, shall be chosen by those in full church membership, and shall hold office under regulations to be passed by the General Council.

15. (a) It shall be the duty of the Session to have the oversight of:

(1) The admission of persons into full membership, and the granting of certificates of removal.

(2) The conduct of members, with power to exercise discipline.

(3) The administration of the sacraments.

(4) The religious training of the young, and the organization of meetings for Christian fellowship, instruction and work.

(5) The order of public worship, including the service of praise and the use of the church edifice.

(6) The care of the poor and the visiting of the sick.

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(6) It shall also be its duty:

(7) To receive and judge petitions, etc., from members.

(8) To transmit petitions, appeals, etc., to Presbytery.

(9) To recommend suitable laymen to Presbyteries for license to preach.

(10) To recommend suitable candidates for the ministry.

16. The stewards shall be chosen by the local church, and, wherever practicable, should be persons in full membership.

It shall be the duty of the Committee of Stewards to secure contributions for the purposes of the local church, and to disburse the moneys received for these purposes.

17. It shall be the duty of the Official Board:

(1) To secure contributions for missionary and other general objects of the Church.

(2) To select representatives, in full Church membership, of the pastoral charge to the Presbytery.

(3) To submit to the pastoral charge or local church for its consideration reports on life and work, including a full statement of receipts and expenditures, of indebtedness and of estimates for the ensuing year.

(4) To transmit from the pastoral charge, through the Presbytery, to the Settlement Committee, representations concerning the pastoral relation.

(5) To attend to matters affecting the pastoral charge not assigned to any of the other bodies.

18. All lands, premises and property acquired for the

use of a local church or a pastoral charge of The United Church shall be held, used and administered under the trusts of the above Model Trust Deed (see "Polity," Par. 6).

ORIGINATING WORK IN NEW TERRITORY.

VII. That the Co-operating Committees at their Annual Meetings consider the plans proposed by the several denominations for work in new territory for the ensuing year, as reported by their Home Mission Superintendents. They shall also review such new work as may have been initiated by the Local Committees, or Missionary Superintendents, since the last meeting.

1. When any one of the co-operating Churches is ready to undertake work in a new unoccupied field, the proposal shall be submitted by the Superintendent of Missions of the Church undertaking the work, to the Local Committee of the district in which the field lies with full information regarding the field, including the numerical strength of the several Protestant denominations in the community, and the location and distance of adjacent missions. The Local Committee, thus consulted, shall, without delay, send reply to the Superintendent, mailing also a copy of that reply to the Secretary of the Co-operating Committee having jurisdiction.

2. The Home Mission Superintendents of the respective denominations shall look into the needs of unoccupied territory and as far as possible consult with one another before work is undertaken therein.

3. In any case, however, in which such consultation would unnecessarily delay ministration to the needs of

AGREEMENT FOR CO-OPERATION.

a new community, the initiation of work by any denomination may be undertaken as at present; the initiation of such work, along with full information regarding the field as provided above, to be reported immediately to the Chairman of the nearest Local Committee, and to be subject to the provision contained in the following paragraph.

4. Work so initiated, after the 1st of April, 1911, shall be subject to the review of the Co-operating Committee; and in all such cases priority of occupation shall have no weight in determining the particular denomination to which the field should be assigned.

5. Regard should be had to the disadvantage under which any of the denominations may be placed in putting a stop to overlapping in existing fields, and also to the number contributed by such denomination to the sister denominations in fields where its membership is not sufficiently numerous to justify a separate Church, by assigning to that denomination in certain cases that may be agreed upon a specified district as its sphere of labor.

WORK AMONGST THE NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING RACES.

VIII. That, in the work among the non-English speaking part of our population, certain districts or nationalities be assigned to the different denominations; but that, if preferred in any locality, there be a combination of resources for the prosecution of a united work, and that the matter be referred to the Home Mission Departments of the co-operating Churches to work out.

REVISION.

IX. Any of the co-operating Churches, at any meeting of a Co-operating Committee, may give notice through its Missionary Superintendent, of its desire for a reconsideration of the decision arrived at in regard to any field or district. Such reconsideration shall be given at the next meeting of the Committee, or at a special meeting which may be called at the request of any three members of the Committee.

X. Modifications of the plan of co-operation above set forth may be adopted by this Central Committee from time to time as experience may prove to be desirable. Local and Co-operating Committees are invited to submit to this Committee such modifications as they consider necessary.

(Signed by)

A. B. BAIRD,

*Moderator of the General Assembly of the
Presbyterian Church of Canada, Chairman*

S. D. CHOWN,

*General Superintendent of the Methodist Church
of Canada, Chairman.*

W. T. GUNN,

*Secretary of the Congregational Union of Canada,
Secretary.*

APPENDIX VII.

A DIGEST OF JUDICIAL DECISIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS OF LAW, NOT MODIFIED BY SUBSEQUENT LEGISLATION, AS GIVEN BY THE COURT OF APPEAL, THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S COURT OF APPEAL, AND IN THE RULINGS OF THE PRESIDENTS OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES REPORTED TO, AND APPROVED BY THE ACTION OF, THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, FROM THE UNION IN 1883 TO 1906.

I. *General Conference.*

1. An appeal against any legislation of the General Conference cannot be entertained by the Court of Appeal. (Journal 1898, p. 279, par. 8; also p. 286.)

II. *General Conference Special Committee.*

2. The General Conference Special Committee has not jurisdiction to entertain complaints of ministers or members which involve the protection of their individual rights and privileges within the Church. (Journal 1902, p. 308.)

III. *Transfer Committee.*

A Transfer Committee may not appoint an Interim Committee thereof to arrange transfers. (Journal, 1918 p. 178).

IV. *Annual Conference.*

3. An Annual Conference on finding a minister guilty of an offence "expressly forbidden by the Word of God, and sufficient to exclude from the kingdom of grace and glory" has no discretionary power to attach some other penalty than that ordered by Discipline. (Journal 1890, p. 175, par. 2.)

4. When an Annual Conference finds a minister guilty of an offence "expressly forbidden by the Word of God, and sufficient to exclude from the kingdom of grace and glory," the President is not at liberty to entertain a motion in amendment of the sentence required by Discipline. (Journal 1890, p. 176, par. 7.)

5. An Annual Conference exceeds its jurisdiction when it indefinitely postpones passing a proper sentence upon an offender. (Journal 1890, p. 176, par. 6.)

6. An Annual Conference cannot expel a minister under charges without pronouncing upon his guilt. (Journal 1894, p. 253, par. 6.)

7. Ministers appointed to connexional offices, though not in the pastorate, are in the "active work." (Journal 1890, p. 175, par. 4.)

8. Evangelists and College Presidents are in the "active work" in the sense of laymen being entitled

to represent them in the District Meeting. (Journal 1902, p. 312.)

9. An Annual Conference has power to settle disputes between two or more congregations within its boundaries. (Journal 1890, p. 253, par. 5.)

10. Women cannot be admitted as lay delegates to membership in an Annual Conference. (Journal 1894, p. 253, par. 3.) (See also case reported at p. 268, Journal, 1914, but see action of General Conference of 1918, reported on p. 82, Journal, 1918.)

11. An Annual Conference cannot receive into full connexion and admit to ordination any candidate who has not previously fulfilled the requirements of Discipline as to the term of probation and examinations. (Journal 1894, p. 254, par. 10.)

12. An extra-Disciplinary contract made between a minister and the Ministerial Session of his Conference cannot supersede the operation of Discipline in determining his standing or relation. (Journal 1898, p. 278, par. 4.)

13. The constitutionality of the law of location is affirmed. (Journal 1898, p. 279, par. 9.)

14. An Annual Conference cannot so place the name of a minister on the station list as to deprive him both of supernumerary allowance and of circuit pay without his request. (Journal 1898, p. 283, par. 1.)

15. Permission to be, and remain, without a circuit to engage in connexional work can be granted by the Annual Conference in ministerial session only. (Journal 1898, p. 284, par. 4.)

16. "Travelling," in the Disciplinary sense, and time allowance for studies are separate and different things (Journal 1898, p. 284, par. 5.)

17. The phrase "on a circuit for three years" in a Disciplinary sense is different from "travelling three years." (Journal 1898, p. 284, par. 7.)

18. Funds raised ostensibly for ministerial support but actually for the Superannuation Fund, must be marked in the Conference schedules as being raised for the Superannuation Fund. (Journal 1898, p. 284, par. 6.)

19. Districts in electing laymen to the Annual Conference are not bound to elect only those within the bounds of their own district. (Journal 1898, p. 285, par. 11.)

20. An Annual Conference exceeds its jurisdiction when it refuses to consider the cases of candidates for the ministry properly recommended by a District Meeting. (Journal 1902, p. 306.)

21. An Annual Conference, in the examination of ministerial standing, exceeds its jurisdiction when it employs extra-Disciplinary methods in contravention of sufficient procedure already provided. (Journal 1902, p. 307.)

22. An Annual Conference exceeds its jurisdiction when it grants a certificate of standing to a probationer who has desisted irregularly from the work. (Journal 1902, p. 307.)

23. An Annual Conference exceeds its jurisdiction when it grants credentials to a minister respecting whom

the usual questions in the District Meeting concerning his moral and religious character were not answered in the Disciplinary sense. (Journal 1902, p. 307.)

24. An Annual Conference exceeds its jurisdiction when it receives a candidate, who, at the time of his reception on probation, had not completed his preliminary course of study. (Journal 1902, p. 310. See also two decisions reported in Journal 1914, p. 267.)

25. The Ministerial Session of an Annual Conference Special Committee has no power to permit a probationer to marry. (Journal 1914, p. 267.)

An Annual Conference Special Committee may give permission to marry. (Journal 1914, p. 268.)

26. The transfer of a delegate to the Ecumenical Conference, after election, from the Annual Conference choosing him to another Annual Conference territory, and jurisdiction does not cause a vacancy in the Ecumenical Conference delegation. (Journal 1914, p. 268.)

27. Proceedings of the laymen, when reporting to the full Annual Conference, may be discussed but cannot be amended or rejected. But any report of such proceedings may be taken up by the Conference by special resolution on substantiative motion and action taken thereon. (Journal 1918, p. 315.)

V. *Local Preachers.*

28. A local preacher's license may (under the Discipline of 1910) be cancelled (discontinued) by the Quarterly Official Board or Local Preachers' Meeting without a Committee trial. (Journal 1918, p. 179.)

29. Local preachers are "local," and are responsible to local ideals that are in harmony with those of the whole Church. Objections to a local preacher may be quite properly considered in some localities that would be unworthy of consideration in others in deciding the advisability of continuing such local preacher's license. (Journal 1918, p. 179.)

VI. *Stationing Committee.*

30. A Stationing Committee cannot transfer appointments from one circuit to another unless the previous Disciplinary requirements have been complied with. (Journal 1894, p. 254, par. 7.)

31. No names of persons other than those of ministers and probationers can appear on the Annual Conference station lists. (Journal 1898, p. 283, par. 3.)

VII. *Quarterly Board.*

32. Adjourned meetings of the Quarterly Official Board are legal. (Journal 1890, p. 252, last paragraph.)

VIII. *Class Leaders.*

33. The appointment of a Class Leader takes effect immediately upon being made. (Journal 1902, p. 306.)

IX. *Trustee Board.*

34. Trustees may use their ordinary revenue to engage musicians for religious worship. (Journal 1898, p. 278, par. 1.)

35. A Trustee meeting convened by the call of two trustees, notice having been served on the Superintendent of the circuit and on all the other trustees, is legal. (Journal 1902, p. 309.)

X. Division of a Circuit.

36. The transfer of an appointment from one circuit to another is a division of a circuit. (Journal 1902, p. 308.)

37. On the division of a circuit there is no vested right in any property on such circuit, on the part of any church or congregation transferred, but each case must be considered on its merits and all equities taken into account. (Journal 1910, p. 173.)

XI. Superannuation Fund.

38. No minister can exempt himself from payment to the Superannuation Fund. (Journal 1890, p. 253, par. 1.)

39. A minister is personally responsible for the circuit deficit on the Superannuation Fund, notwithstanding the fact that the total payments of the Conference may have equalled or exceeded the total amount required from all the circuits. (Journal 1902, p. 311.)

40. When a minister of a Western Conference is appointed to an office in a connexional institution in an Eastern Conference, the said institution is liable, under Par. 434 of the Discipline of 1906, to supplement such

minister's personal assessment to the full amount of money required to raise the assessment to \$75.00 per annum. (Journal 1910, p. 168.)

41. A minister who is regularly superannuated by his Conference, meeting all the requirements of Discipline, may also be appointed as supply on some circuit or station, and receive remuneration therefor. (Journal 1910, p. 171.)

XII. *Supernumerary Fund.*

42. The Supernumerary Fund, with its administration, is under the control of the General Conference and its courts. (Journal 1902, p. 310.)

43. When the Journal of the General Conference shows that the representatives of the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund, having taken into consideration all antecedent facts reported to the General Conference, has recommended an assessment of 2½ per cent., and that said report was adopted, such assessment is held to be constitutional and binding. (Journal 1906, p. 153.)

44. Under the Supernumerary Fund, when a minister was granted leave of absence for one year, and afterward was appointed to a circuit by the Interim Stationing Committee, the benefit of the fund for the year was denied him on appeal, on the ground that the Interim Stationing Committee has no power to alter the relation of a minister as determined by the Conference. (Journal 1906, p. 153.)

45. Under the Supernumerary Fund no authority but an Annual Conference can restore to the active work a minister who has been left without an appointment at his own request. (Journal 1906, p. 153.)

46. A Conference has power to determine whether a minister of another Church, who acts as supply upon a circuit for a year and pays his assessment for that year to the Supernumerary Fund, being then received as a minister of our Church, shall have that year as supply counted in his record of service as affecting his ultimate claims. (Journal 1910, p. 171.)

XIII. *Administration of Discipline.*

47. A Superintendent of a circuit has not discretionary power to refuse a proper letter of standing from another Superintendent if presented within the twelve months specified in the Discipline. (Journal 1898, p. 278, par. 3.)

48. A new Superintendent of a circuit is not bound to receive charges which, under a previous Superintendent, had been tried, and respecting which the committee had failed to agree upon a decision. (Journal 1898, p. 282.)

49. Acceptance by a Superintendent of a circuit of a resignation of membership, though afterwards withdrawn, is not equivalent to expulsion from the Church without charges. (Journal 1898, p. 283, par. 2.)

50. Charges are vitiated through want of definiteness in specifications as to times and places. (Journal 1894, p. 253, par. 2.)

51. When the Superintendent of a circuit would have been the proper person to preside at a trial had he not been disqualified, the Chairman of the District is not bound to appoint another Chairman of a District to preside, but is entitled to appoint another Superintendent of a circuit. (Journal 1898, p. 284, par. 8.)

52. When the senior Chairman of an Annual Conference presides over a committee of Chairmen in a trial of the President of the Conference, the said senior Chairman sits as the President of Conference for that occasion. (Journal 1902, p. 308.)

53. A charge against an ordained minister received on probation since the first enactment of the law found in Par. 166, sec. 2, of the Discipline of 1898, for the use of tobacco, must be entertained. (Journal 1902, p. 308.)

54. A charge against a presiding officer of maladministration in the conduct of a trial must be entertained. (Journal 1902, p. 309.) (See Discipline 1906, ¶ 239.)

55. When charges and an appeal are in progress, and the original case is unsettled, another party cannot prefer the same charges in the absence of, and without the knowledge or consent of, the original complainant. (Journal 1902, p. 311.)

56. Appeal to the President of a Conference from the Chairman of a District is not barred merely on the ground of the former being a brother of the latter, and therefore supposed to be "interested" in the appeal. (Journal 1902, p. 310.)

57. A minister may not introduce the wearing of the Geneva gown in public worship, as it is contrary to general usage as set forth in paragraphs 2, 3, and 14 of the Model Deed. (Journal 1906, p. 153.)

58. In the case of minor offences, when the Committee of Trial has imposed certain penalties which have been endured before the District Meeting, which passes the character of the accused, the Annual Conference may not again investigate the case. (Journal 1906, p. 153.)

59. Under provision of Discipline, providing for the continuity of the Presidential office, the President in office at the time of a proper requirement on the presidency, on being duly notified, shall either appear himself in the case, or secure a representative to appear. (Journal 1906, p. 153.)

60. The Annual Conference having, under provision of Discipline, framed its regulations for its own Contingent Fund, may refuse to admit any case that does not come within its regulations. (Journal 1906, p. 153.)

61. Law decisions have effect only in concrete cases. Matters brought forward on general questions, and not on a personal or corporate appeal, regarding personal or corporate rights, duly specified, cannot claim from a presiding officer a decision to be made the subject of appeal. (Journal 1906, p. 154.)

62. The representative of a District on the Stationing Committee is entitled to his seat on said committee when he has exercised due diligence to attend, and so

informed the committee, though unavoidably detained; nor can the reserve representative, in such circumstances, be seated in his place by a vote of the committee. (Journal 1906, p. 154.)

63. When a minister is superannuated by a Conference in its ministerial session, and subsequently at the same session of the Conference is elected its President, by said election as President he is restored to the active work, and his superannuation and claim on the Superannuation Fund are thereby cancelled. (Journal 1906, p. 154.)

64. The General Superintendent as an "Appellate Court" may order a new trial. (Journal 1908, p. 179.)

65. The Board of Governors of Wesleyan Theological College did not exceed its jurisdiction in appointing a committee to consider the doctrinal attitude of one of its professors, who was a minister of the Methodist Church. (Journal 1910, p. 170.)

66. The Board of Governors of Wesleyan Theological College has jurisdiction to appoint a professor and to terminate his engagement on any grounds that may seem to them sufficient, which can have no legal effect upon his ministerial standing. (Journal 1910, p. 174.)

67. When appointing or removing professors the Board of Directors of Wesley College, Winnipeg, acts as a General Conference Board. (Journal 1918, p. 181.)

68. Sections 234, 235, 236 and 237 of the Discipline of 1914 set forth the only methods of procedure in dealing with those specially named therein. Sec. 241 refers to other cases. (Journal 1918, p. 180.)

APPENDIX VIII.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The President shall take the chair at the hour to which the Conference may stand adjourned, and cause the same to be opened by the reading of the Scriptures, singing and prayer.

2. The roll of the members of the General Conference, as certified by the President and the Secretary of each of the constituent Conferences, shall be called immediately after the opening of the first session.

3. The following shall be the order of business:

(1) Reading the Minutes of preceding session.

(2) Communications.

(3) Memorials.

(4) Reports of Standing Committees.

(5) Reports of Special Committees.

(6) Motions of which previous notice has been given.

(7) Notices of motion.

(8) Questions of which notice has been given.

(9) Miscellaneous.

4. On the call for Reports of Committees, all reports that are ready shall be called in before action is taken on any one of them. Unless otherwise directed by the

Conference, or the committee reporting, the report of a committee shall be read by its Secretary, and its adoption moved (unless he disagrees with it) by the Chairman, who also shall give such information regarding it as may be required.

5. The President shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Conference; but in case of such appeal the question shall be taken without debate. When a member rises to a point of order, or the President calls any member to order, in either case the point of order shall be distinctly stated.

6. No member shall remain standing during debate, except the member addressing the President.

7. The President shall nominate all committees not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference.

8. When a motion is moved and seconded, or a report is presented and is read by the Secretary or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference; nor shall any motion be withdrawn by the mover after being debated, without the consent of the Conference.

9. All motions shall be presented in writing by the proposer.

10. The following motions are not debatable:

- (a) For the previous question.
- (b) To lay on the table.
- (c) For indefinite adjournment.
- (d) For indefinite postponement.

11. No new motion shall be entertained until the one under consideration is disposed of, which may be done

RULES OF ORDER.

by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions shall intervene, which motions shall have the precedence in the order in which they are placed, viz.:

- (a) Adjournment.
- (b) Lay on the table.
- (c) Indefinite postponement.
- (d) Postponement to a given time.
- (e) Reference to a committee.
- (f) Amendment.
- (g) Amendment to the amendment.

12. When any member is about to speak in debate or deliver any matter to the Conference, he shall rise and address the President, and shall proceed only when the President announces his name.

13. No person shall speak more than once on the same question without leave of the Conference, except the mover, who shall be entitled to a general reply.

14. No person shall speak more than ten minutes at one time without leave of the Conference, which shall be granted or refused without debate.

15. Any member who voted in the majority may move a reconsideration of a resolution. A motion to reconsider may be carried by a majority. This may be done during the session in which it was passed; but if done at any other time a notice of motion for reconsideration must be given at the session immediately preceding that in which the vote for reconsideration is to be taken. A resolution may be reconsidered once only.

16. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order.

17. Motions relating to the rights and privileges of the Conference, or of individual members, and orders of the day, shall be considered questions of privilege.

18. The previous question being moved, the President shall put it at once by asking, "Shall the vote be now taken?" If the previous question is carried, all debate shall cease save the right of reply on the part of the mover of the original motion, and after the mover shall have replied the President shall proceed to take the vote on the several motions before the Conference.

19. No member shall absent himself from the sessions of the Conference without leave, unless he be sick or unable to attend.

20. No member who is not within the bar when any question is put by the President shall be allowed to vote on such question, except by leave of Conference.

21. Before the President rises to put a motion to the Conference, he shall ask, "Is the Conference ready for the question?" No member shall speak after the President has risen to put the question; and all members present shall vote unless excused by the Conference.

22. No member shall be interrupted when speaking, except by the President, to call him to order when he departs from the question, or uses personalities or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President when he deems the speaker out of order, and any member may explain if he is misrepresented.

23. No business shall pass from individuals to the committees without reference through the Conference.

24. Any member may call for the ayes and nays on any question before the Conference, provided he be sustained by twenty members. Any member may require that the number of votes for and against a resolution be announced.

25. When yeas and nays are ordered in relation to any motion, they shall be taken at that session of the Conference.

26. In the General Conference fifty members shall constitute a quorum.

27. The Secretary shall provide a bulletin, upon which announcements of meetings of committees and matters relating to other Conference business may be made.

28. Members presenting memorials, petitions, and other papers for reference, shall prepare the paper by writing in a plain hand on the back of it the following items in the following order, viz.:—(1) Subject to which it relates. (2) Name of the member presenting it, and the Conference to which he belongs, or the name of the body sending it, as the case may be. (3) Name of committee to which the Conference refers it. Papers thus presented shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Conference, and by him sent to the committee according to endorsement.

29. A motion consisting of two or more distinct propositions shall, if a call for its subdivision be sustained by two members of the Conference, be subdivided into two or more sections, and the vote shall be taken on each section separately.

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30. In all cases where a member of the Conference presents a motion involving an amendment to the Discipline, the motion shall be so framed as to show the form in which the paragraph or section, as the case may be, will stand when amended.

31. Committees recommending changes in the Discipline shall so frame their reports as to show the form in which the paragraph or section, as the case may be, will stand after the changes shall have been made.

32. When a motion is submitted it may be amended, and an amendment to the amendment is also in order. In case the amendment to the amendment be rejected, it is in order to propose other amendments to the amendment, which shall be disposed of one by one. When these have been voted on, if one be adopted the vote shall then be taken on the amendment thus amended, and if it be adopted the discussion may proceed, and other amendments to the main motion as thus amended are then in order. When all amendments have been disposed of, the motion as then before the Conference shall be voted on.

33. When any committee shall ascertain that a subject which has been referred to it has been referred also to another committee, it shall promptly report the fact to the Conference, and the Conference shall decide which committee shall have permanent charge of said subject.

34. The principles of procedure and rules of the House of Commons of Canada, as far as they apply, shall govern the proceedings of this body, subject to the special rules which have been or may be adopted.

APPENDIX IX.

COURT OF APPEAL.

RULES OF PROCEDURE.

1. Parties to appeals are required to prepare their pleadings in separate documents, as follows:

(a) Let the Appellant indicate the occasion of his appeal thus: "I hereby appeal from the following ruling" or action, as the case may be, stated with distinct brevity and dated.

(b) Let him state categorically, and without extended argument, the legal grounds, and nothing but the legal grounds, of his appeal, and let these be properly numbered. These points may be expanded orally in the Court.

(c) Let the Respondent similarly state the grounds of his resistance of appeal and defence of the ruling or action challenged.

These three documents should, if practicable, be typewritten, and should set forth the issues clearly and especially without irrelevant matter. Each of these documents should indicate in the heading the name of the case by designating the Appellant and Respondent, should be dated and signed, and give P. O. address.

Copies of these documents should be mailed to the General Superintendent and to the Secretary, at as early a date as possible, for review and for distribution to the members of the Court. The Appellant should serve the Respondent with a copy of the grounds of his appeal, and similarly the Respondent should serve the Appellant with a copy of the grounds of his defence.

2. The Secretary cannot be responsible for defective entry of the pleadings in the Journal of the Court if they have been prepared imperfectly, or not duly submitted. Before entry they may be amended by him to conform to the above rules.

3. If the notice and appeal above referred to are not forwarded so as to be in the possession of the Chairman, Secretary and Respondent within what the Court may pronounce a reasonable time before the date of its sittings, as advertised in the connexional organs of the Church, the Court may refuse to allow it a hearing.

4. The Court reserves to itself the discretionary power to dismiss or postpone any case for disregard of the above rules of procedure.

APPENDIX X.

FORMS OF PROCEDURE.

Form 1.—Complaint.

THE METHODIST CHURCH.

.....*Conference.*
.....*District.*
.....*Circuit.*

In the matter of

A. B., *Complainant,*
and C. D., *Defendant.*

I, A. B. (a member, minister, or as the fact may be), of the church on the.....Circuit, hereby charge that the said C. D. (a minister or member, as the fact may be), of the church upon.....Circuit, on or about the day of, A.D. 19....., at (here put in the place at which the offence charged was committed), did (here state the offence; if the charge is one of false teaching, give as nearly as possible the words, and if they were repeated, give the other times and places, the object being to give him the best information as to what he is accused of, and when and where it is alleged he committed the offence).

FORMS OF PROCEDURE.

I charge that this is an offence against the law of God (or the rules or Discipline of the Church, as the case may be).

And I hereby request you to take the proper steps to bring the said C. D. to trial.

Yours, etc.,

To.....

Form 2.—Notice to Person Accused.

(Full formal heading as in Form 1.)

I, E. F., Superintendent of the above circuit (or Chairman of the above District, or President of the above Conference), hereby give you notice that a complaint, a true copy of which is hereto annexed, has been laid against you.

Further, take notice that I have selected and summoned a committee for the trial of such complaint, and that the said committee will meet for the taking of evidence upon and considering of said complaint at (house where the committee will sit) on.....day, the.....day of.....19.., at the hour of....o'clock in the noon, ...and that if you have any evidence or matter to produce in your behalf it will then be heard.

(Place and date.)

Yours, etc.,

To.....

Form 3.—Finding of Committee.

(Full formal heading as in Form 1.)

The committee selected and summoned to try the charges in this matter, having assembled at the time and place appointed for such trial, were thereupon attended by the said complainant*¹ and the said defendant*²; and having heard the evidence adduced by the respective parties, and what was alleged by them and on their behalf, we (the names of the committee, or, if not unanimous, then the names of those who agree), the said committee (*or* the majority of the said committee), find:—That none of the said charges are sustained and proved, and that the defendant is not guilty, *or* that the said charges are sustained and proved, and that the said defendant is guilty of the offences laid therein, *or* that the first charge is sustained and proved, and that the defendant is guilty of the offences laid therein.

As to the other charges, we find that they are not sustained and proved, and upon them we find that the defendant is not guilty.

(The charges and specifications submitted, and the findings thereon, shall be specified clearly, and in detail. If the defendant is found guilty upon any charge, add the appropriate penalty.)

The said offence of which we find the said defendant guilty is, in our judgment, such as is expressly forbidden by the Word of God, and sufficient to exclude

FORMS OF PROCEDURE.

a person from the kingdom of grace and glory, and we hereby suspend him (in case of a minister or probationer) until the Annual Conference shall finally dispose of the case. (If the defendant be a member, other than a minister or a probationer, follow the form down to the *, then say) until the delay allowed for appeal has expired.

Given under our hands at.....this.....day of.....19..(all signing in the presence of each other).

In case of less grave offences, omit the paragraph beginning "The said offence," and say: And we adjudge that the said defendant be admonished (*or whatever the sentence may be*).

Given under our hands at.....this.....day of.....19..(all signing in the presence of each other).

Certificate of presiding officer to be written below the copy of decision, which must be served upon each party within three days:

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the decision of the committee in the above matter.

X. Y., *Presiding Officer.*

Form 3a.—Where Defendant does not Appear.

(Same as Form 3 down to first *, then insert)—but the said defendant did not, nor did any person on his behalf, attend before us, although duly served with

notice in that behalf, as by evidence in writing now among the records of this matter appears; and having heard the evidence adduced on behalf of the complainant, we find (etc., as in Form 3).

Form 3b.—Where Defendant Pleads Guilty.

(Same as in Form 3 down to the second *.)

And the defendant having pleaded guilty to the charges in this matter (*or* to No. and No. of the charges in this matter), we find him guilty of the offences mentioned in said charges No., etc. (From here proceed as in Form 3.)

Form 3c.—Where Charges are Amended.

(Same as in Form 3 down to second *.)

The charges laid and served in this matter having been amended so as to read as follows, that is to say: (here insert the charges as they are finally settled).

And the defendant having been allowed proper opportunity to meet said amended charges, we proceeded to hear the evidence adduced, etc. (as in Form 3).

Form 4.—Notice of Decision.

(Full formal heading as in Form 1.)

Take notice, that annexed hereto is a copy, certified

by me, of the decision of the committee in this matter,
which decision was pronounced on the day it bears date.

Yours, etc.,

.....

Toronto, June, 19..

To the above complainant.

Also another

To the above defendant.

(This must be sent to each party within three days
after the decision is given.)

Form 5.—Notice of Appeal from Decision of Committee.

(Full formal heading as in Form 1.)

Take notice that I do hereby appeal from the decision
of the committee in this matter to.....on the
following amongst other grounds:—

(The following are given as showing how grounds of
appeal should be drawn.)

1. That said decision is against law and evidence and
the weight of evidence.

2. That the said committee was not properly consti-
tuted.

3. That I was not allowed to be present when the wit-
nesses, or some or one of them, were being examined.

4. That evidence was taken in my absence, although
the committee well knew that I intended to be present
and that I was unavoidably absent, and that, when I
appeared, the committee refused to recall witnesses so
examined in my absence.

5. That the members of said committee consulted with and listened to the complainant and his witnesses before and after the said trial, and when I was not present.

6. That the presiding officer so conducted said trial as to interfere with the liberty of judgment of said committee.

And I claim the right to add to and vary the grounds of my appeal as I may be advised..

Form 6.—Resolution of Annual Conference on an Appeal from Committee.

Moved by.....seconded by.....

That having heard the appeal of the complainant (*or* defendant) from the decision of the committee in the matter of A. B., complainant, and C. D., defendant, and considered the charges, proceedings, evidence and decision therein, this Conference resolves that the said defendant is—*or* is not—guilty of the offence (*or* offences) as found in said decision, *or* modify the findings of the decision as the Conference may think right—guilty of the offence (*or* offences) as found in the said decision; and that such offence (*or* offences) is (*or* are) such as is expressly forbidden by the Word of God, and is sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory; be it therefore further resolved that the said C. D. be deposed from the ministry and expelled from the Church, and he is hereby declared to be so deposed and expelled.

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*The Figures denote Paragraphs, except when marked otherwise.
The letters M. D. denote the Model Deed.*

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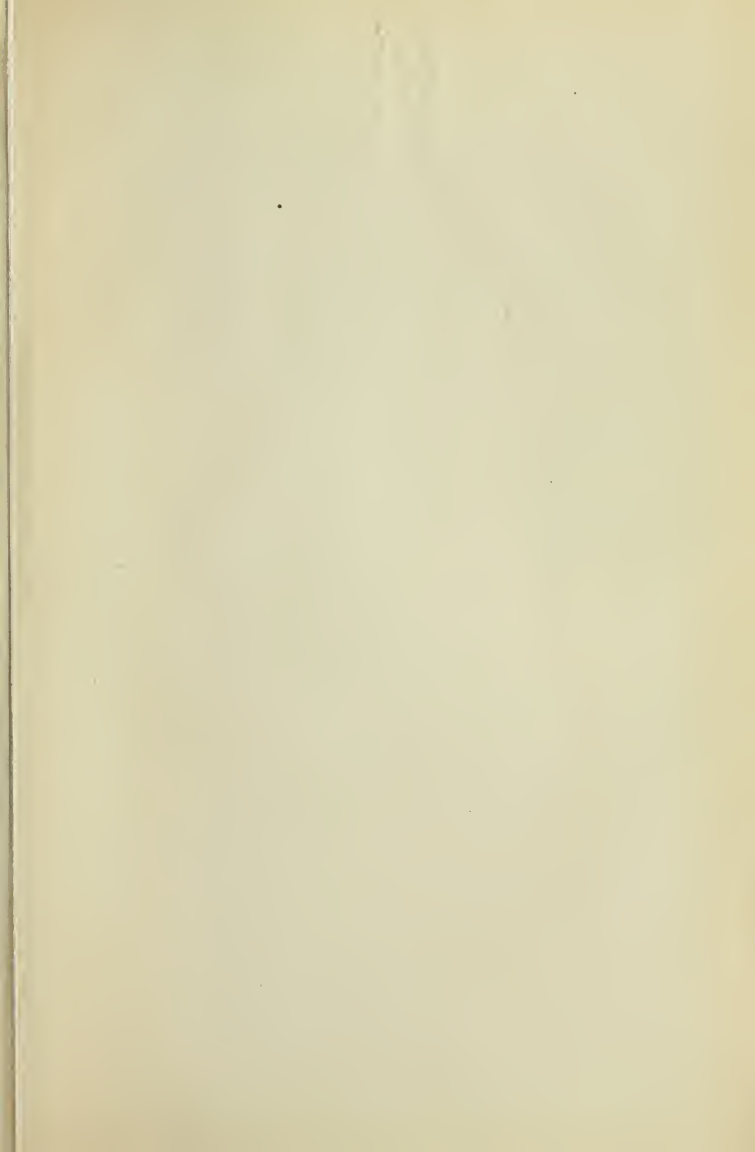
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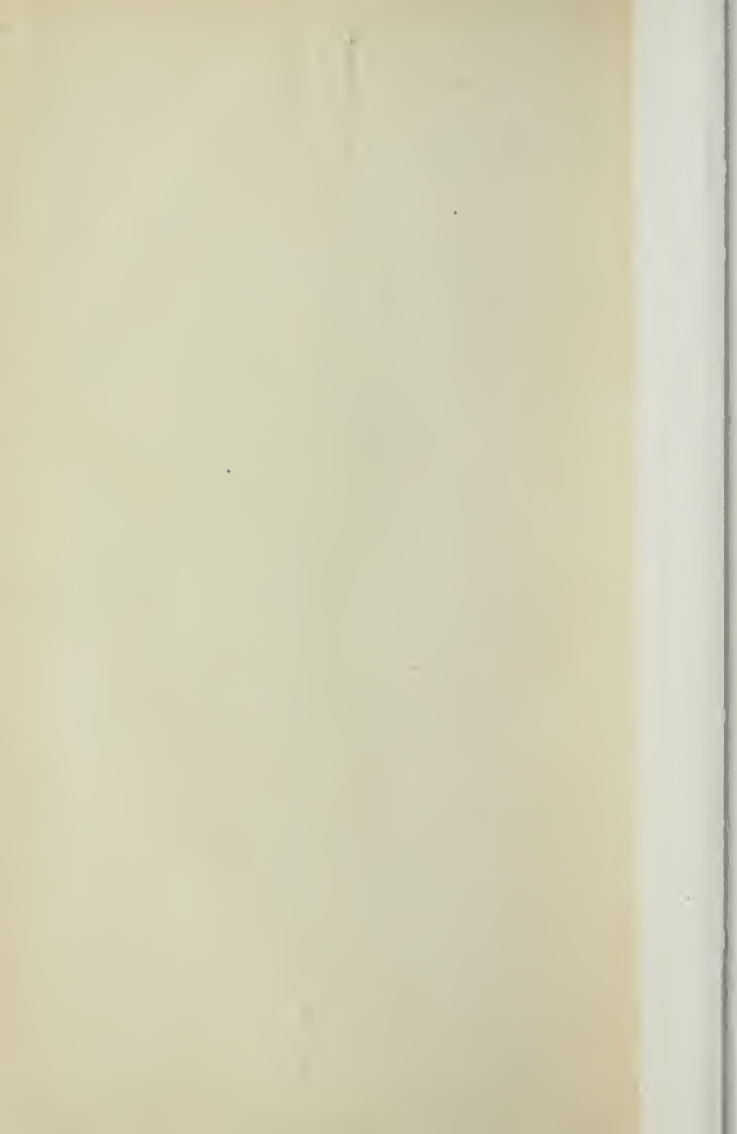
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